

W. Bank schools to reopen

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel will reopen West Bank schools attended by 300,000 Palestinian pupils, a military official said Sunday. A spokesman for the West Bank's "civil administration" said primary schools would be allowed to reopen Dec. 1, followed by junior high and high schools. Universities, however, will remain closed. "We decided to gradually open the academic year from the first of December and we hope this decision won't meet demonstrations or violence," the spokesman said. "We hope that for the good of the students, this will be carried out without problems," he added. Asked about West Bank universities, which were closed by the authorities last February, the spokesman said: "For now we are not talking about the universities." The occupation authorities closed 800 West Bank schools last February and only reopened them in May to allow students to finish the academic year. The schools were due to open again in September following the summer break but military authorities delayed the start of the new session.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Southern Africa talks set for New York

LISBON (AP) — Angola, Cuba and South Africa will meet in New York this week for an informal round of U.S.-mediated talks on peace in southern Africa, the Portuguese state-owned daily *Diário de Notícias* reported Sunday. Unidentified sources told the newspaper that informal talks would "die up the loose ends" of a provisional peace accord reached in Geneva, Switzerland, last Tuesday. Sources quoted by the paper said delegates would arrive Monday in New York for negotiations lasting two or three days.

Expedition finds Assyrian city

BAGHDAD (AP) — A British archaeological expedition has located the remains of an ancient Assyrian city in the Jazira region near the Syrian border, its director said Sunday. Warwick Ball said the team had unearthed clay tablets relating the site to the Assyrian city of Tellulheh believed to have been located around 95 kilometres from the capital of Nineveh. "It is rather a small city but the find is exciting," Ball said, adding that it could be an important Assyrian city. He said occupation at the site went back 6,000 years.

Police kill five Sikh gunmen

CHANDIGARH (R) — Security forces killed at least five Sikh extremists in a shootout near Amritsar Sunday, police said. Police and paramilitary forces encountered the extremists from the Khalistan commando force, one of the groups waging a bloody campaign for a Sikh homeland in Punjab, as they started an early morning sweep through the countryside. On Saturday night, gunmen opened fire indiscriminately at a village liquor shop in the north of the state, killing at least six people and wounding about eight. So far this year, more than 2,300 people have died in violence sparked by the Sikh separatist campaign.

India congratulates Pakistan

NEW DELHI (R) — The Indian government congratulated Pakistan Sunday for its democratic elections and said it looked forward to friendly relations with the new government. "We have always been keen for the establishment of friendly and good-neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan," an Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "Accordingly we look forward to working together with a popularly-elected government for the speedy and complete normalisation of Indo-Pakistan relations in our mutual interest," he added.

Iran 'cannot forget crimes of U.S.'

NICOSIA (R) — Iran, responding to an appeal from former American President Jimmy Carter, said Sunday it could not forget U.S. "crimes" such as the downing of an Iranian airliner. Carter wrote to Iranian leaders last month seeking their help in the release of 10 American hostages in Lebanon. Tehran poured scorn on the request, saying Washington was begging to resume relations (see page 2). "How can we forget the U.S. navy attacks on the Iranian cargo ship Iran Air and our oil platforms in the Gulf or the downing of Iran Air Flight 655 with 290 passengers and crew aboard?" Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi was quoted as saying.

U.S. captain relieved of command

TOKYO (AP) — The captain of a U.S. destroyer has been relieved of his command, the U.S. military liaison office said Sunday, apparently because practice shells fired by his warship narrowly missed a Japanese vessel earlier this month. "The U.S. navy has relieved Frederick H. Michaels Jr. as commanding officer of the USS Towers," said a military spokesman. Michaels, commander of the destroyer since 1987, "will be assigned temporarily to destroyer squadron 15," the spokesman added. He said the dismissal was effective Nov. 19. The dismissal apparently stems from a Nov. 9 incident in which the Towers was holding firing practice about 17 kilometres off Boso Peninsula east of Tokyo. Local news reports said the destroyer fired 10 rounds of non-explosive, sand-filled projectiles from its 127mm guns that landed as close as 300 metres behind the Japanese coast guard patrol boat Uraga. No injuries or damage were reported in the incident.

Opposition urges Rangoon's isolation

BANGKOK (R) — An alliance of 22 Burmese factions, including ethnic guerrillas, fugitive students and overseas groups, has urged the international community to continue to isolate the military government in Rangoon. The Democratic Alliance of Burma, formed at a meeting at Kler Day in an isolated forest clearing near the Thai border last week, said an interim government should be established in Rangoon under United Nations auspices. Reporters who attended the meeting said Sunday the alliance issued a statement calling for the immediate resignation of the military council under General Saw Maung that took power on Sept. 18 and "free and fair elections."

Thousands demonstrate in Franco's memory

MADRID (AP) — Thousands of flag-waving Spaniards demonstrated Sunday in downtown Madrid to commemorate the 13th anniversary of the death of Francisco Franco. The demonstration, headed by Franco's only daughter, Carmen Franco Polo, was organised by the Veterans Organisation, an association of those who fought with Franco against the second republic during the 1936-39 Spanish war. Organisers estimated the crowd at 150,000, while the municipal police put it close to 20,000.

Pakistan government talks today

ISLAMABAD (R) — Acting Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan Sunday invited Benazir Bhutto and her main rival Nawaz Sharif for talks on forming a government after last week's indecisive elections. Justice Minister Wasim Sajjad said in a statement the acting president would see them separately on Tuesday "on questions relating to formation of the future government" (see page 8).

Afghan plane shot down, Pakistan says

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan shot down an intruding Afghan plane Saturday night, killing all the people on board, the Pakistani Defence Ministry said Sunday. A ministry statement said the plane was shot down by ground fire near the north-western border town of Parachinar in the Kurram tribal area with the wreckage falling inside Pakistan. It did not specify the number killed or the plane's type. It was the fifth time since August that Pakistan reported shooting down planes along the 2,250-kilometre border. In most cases, the Soviet-backed Afghan government denied charges of intrusion.

Arafat visits Baghdad

NICOSIA (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived Sunday in Baghdad for consultations with aides and with President Saddam Hussein after proclaiming the state of Palestine last week. Palestinian sources said Arafat flew to Baghdad at dawn from Algiers. Last week, he also visited Morocco and Mauritania. A Palestinian official in Arafat's party said that in addition to consultations with military aides, Arafat planned to meet with Hussein to brief him on the "next phase after the declaration of independence."

King: PLO has done its part for peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had done its part towards building a lasting peace settlement in the Middle East and that it was up to the United States and Israel to respond positively to the PLO move.

In an interview broadcast Sunday morning by the American CBS television's "Face the Nation" programme, the King said: "I believe that the PLO has gone as far as it was asked to go, and has contributed its share towards a just and comprehensive peace."

The King reaffirmed Jordan's welcome for the decisions taken by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers last week, including the acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, and said:

"I believe our friends in Washington better go back and

look at the documents and they will see... the PLO has come through," he said. "I believe they have denounced terrorism."

"They have made all the moves, and it's time for the others to do the rest."

Israel has dismissed the PNC move, which included declaration of an independent Palestinian state.

U.S. officials generally welcomed the acceptance of Resolution 242 but said it had reservations about the creation of a Palestinian state. The U.S. State Department said the PLO still

had not met requirements for opening a direct dialogue with Washington.

King Hussein said: "I believe that if there is any intransigence, and I believe there is indeed, it is in the Israeli position that hasn't changed and, up to now, that of the United States."

However, the King said he was sanguine about the prospects for peace.

"I am optimistic. I believe the problem is a priority item in the coming period" for President-elect George Bush, he said.

Asked if PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had enough support within the PLO to move forward, the King said: "He obviously has the support to enable him to come this far and this far is what he was asked to achieve..."

The King recalled that as far back as April 1985, when Jordan was trying to arrange a meeting between U.S. officials and PLO representatives, the U.S. had agreed to convening a meeting

provided that the PLO met these conditions. He also said that in June this year, when Jordan was discussing the Shultz initiative with Washington, the Kingdom received a memo from the U.S. administration saying that if the PLO recognises Resolution 242 and 338 and demonstrates readi-

ness to "discuss peace with Israel and renounces terrorism then the U.S. accepts to the fact that an invitation will be sent to the PLO to attend an international peace conference."

Asked why the PLO would not explicitly endorse Israel's right to exist, the King said: "They have accepted 242, which speaks of the right of all states in the area to live in peace and security. Beyond that, I don't see what could be asked of the PLO at this date."

The King said there would be "no hope for peace" if Israel's hardline Likud faction holds to its demands that Israel maintain all of the occupied territory.

"If Likud holds on to the policies that it declared before... then there is no hope for peace," the King said.

"But on the other hand, if they're speaking of 242... in other words territories occupied in June

Al Hussein visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Sunday visited the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces and met for some time with Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. The King also met with Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and other senior officers.

(Continued on page 2)



HM King Hussein

Regional committees issue recommendations

IRBID (Petra) — A two-day seminar on achievements of development councils in the Irbid and Mafrag governorates concluded Sunday and issued a number of recommendations.

The social sectoral committee recommended that special attention be paid to teacher training and to school construction and to developing school curricula. It also called for providing housing for educational staff and for ensuring constructive interaction between the school and community.

In the area of health, the committee recommended that special attention be paid to primary health care services and for supporting the nursing college. It also called for speeding up work on the King Abdullah Hospital at the Jordan University of Science and Technology.

In the area of youth, the committee asked for the formation of a higher council for youth and for drawing up programmes for youth leaderships.

It also called for increased cooperation in the field of social

development between the institutions concerned.

In the field of labour, the committee called for updating labour legislations to cope with the new social and economic developments and for organising the recruitment of foreign labour force.

In the field of housing, it called for the provision of housing for low-income citizens and for organising the land and villages in the Mafrag desert.

The committee also called for adopting the idea of mobile libraries and for establishment of a branch for the cultural forum in Mafrag.

The transport sectoral committee called for promoting road awareness efforts and called on the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment to put an end to random construction along main roads outside municipal borders.

It also recommended that the Civil Aviation Authority undertake a feasibility study with the Tourism Ministry for constructing a small airport in Irbid to serve tourists and internal transport.



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

It also called for undertaking a feasibility study for setting up a special company for the maintenance of equipment and heavy machinery and for studying the idea of introducing transport engineering as one of the university disciplines in one of the Jordanian universities.

The tourism sectoral committee recommended that a special request be made to the Prime Ministry to approve implementation of the following projects: Yarmouk Battle Panorama, a four-star tourist hotel and an auditorium for conferences and symposiums.

It also called on the ministries of

(Continued on page 2)

Cairo, ignoring Israeli protest, recognises Palestinian state

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt, ignoring Israeli objections, said Sunday it had granted full recognition to the Palestinian state proclaimed last Tuesday.

"Egypt has confirmed its recognition of the independent Palestinian state..." said an official statement.

"Egypt blesses this constructive step and hopes that it would serve the cause of peace and stability in the region."

Recognition threatens to be a thorn in Egypt's already sensitive relations with Israel.

The announcement was made shortly after the Israeli ambassador, Shimon Shamir, handed Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul

Meguid a list of his country's objections to the Palestinian independence declaration.

An Israeli embassy official said the letter from Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres rejected the move partly because it was unilateral. It also listed reservations about the text.

An Israeli cabinet statement Sunday branded the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) the main obstacle to peace and urged states not to support the Palestinian declaration.

The Likud and Labour parties, partners in the "unity" cabinet, joined in denouncing the PNC declaration while their negotiators met to discuss forming

another coalition following inconclusive Nov. 1 elections.

Cabinet ministers declined comment on an Israeli Radio report that negotiators had reached agreement on a broad-based coalition that would enable them again to share power.

A cabinet statement said: "We draw the attention of states who have an interest in peace to the fact that the PLO remains the main obstacle to peace, hence they should refrain from supporting their declaration (of independence)."

The West African nations of Senegal and Gambia and Vietnam have recognised the new independent Palestinian state.

Palestinian shot dead, 3 wounded in W. Bank, Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead a 22-year-old Palestinian and wounded three others in clashes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Sunday, hospital officials said.

Five Palestinians suffered beating injuries during an army raid in the West Bank village of Madama, doctors said.

Also Sunday, underground leaders distributed leaflets praising the declaration of a Palestinian state. The Palestine National Council (PNC) proclaimed the state last week in Algiers.

The leaflet said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) seized an historic opportunity to boost the uprising, and urged Muslim fundamentalist extremists to stop criticising the declaration publicly.

"Whether you like it or not,

that will serve the enemy," said the leaflet, signed by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising. Hamas, a Muslim fundamentalist group, has rejected the Algiers declaration.

Leaders called for "escalating the struggle" against Israel from Nov. 21 until Dec. 6, and declared three one-day strikes during that period.

Sunday's fatality occurred during an army raid of the West Bank village of Baqa near Nablus, said officials at Nablus' Al Ithad hospital.

Troops opened fire after encountering resistance, wounding

Yousef Mohammad Abdallah in the head and shooting a 16-year-old in the shoulder. Abdallah died soon after reaching the hospital. Ithad officials said.

His death raised to 323 the number of Palestinians killed in

the nearly year-long revolt. In the West Bank town of Ramallah, Palestinians hurled a firebomb at an army vehicle but no one was hurt, the army said.

In separate clashes in Gaza's Jabaliya and Shati refugee camps, two 12-year-old boys were shot, one in the left leg and one in the right leg, hospital officials said.

An Israeli right-wing politician meanwhile filed a police complaint urging the arrest of Palestinians who read and signed the declaration of independence last week at Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque.

Eliyakim Haetzni of the Tehiya Party accused philosophy professor Sari Nusseibeh, newspaper editor Hanna Simora and the mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Saadeddin Al Alami, of "incitement and rebellion."

Khaddam meets Hoss, Hussein

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam met the head of Lebanon's civilian government Sunday for talks on ways to reunite the country.

The Syrian News Agency (SANA) said Khaddam and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa held talks with acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss and Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein.

Hoss heads one of two governments vying for recognition since September, when rightist deputies boycotted the election of Syrian-supported candidates to succeed President Amin Gemayel.

Gemayel appointed army General Michel Aoun to head an interim administration just before his term of office expired Sept. 23.

Hussein's own term expired in October but rightist deputies blocked election of a successor.

In Vatican City, Pope John Paul made a new appeal Sunday for peace and unity in Lebanon.

Tamils gain majority in regional council

COLOMBO (R) — Muslim-dominated parties tied with Tamils in elections for a regional council in Sri Lanka designed to let Tamils run their own affairs, poll officials said Sunday.

However, previously chosen seats mean Tamils will have a majority on the council, being established to try to end a Tamil separatist revolt in the north and east of the country.

Elections Department Deputy Commissioner W.D. Perera said the Muslim congress and the Tamil Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) each got 17 of 35 seats allotted in eastern province in Saturday's election.

The United National Party (UNP), the party of President Junius Jayewardene which is dominated by Sri Lanka's majority Sinhalese, won only one seat.

A 71-seat council with semi-autonomous powers to administer the north and east was the last hurdle in implementing an Indian-Sri Lankan pact aimed at ending strife between Tamils and Sinhalese.

The EPRLF, a guerrilla group fighting for a separate Tamil state before it supported the pact

signed in July 1987, and another Tamil party were last month elected uncontested to 36 seats in northern province.

Muslim congress leader M.H. Ashraff said the seats won by Muslims in Saturday's poll would not deter Tamils from running their own affairs because they hold a majority.

"I would say the results were a thrashing of the UNP and mean the UNP members of parliament for east province no longer have any mandate," he said.

The views of the Muslims, who constitute 33 per cent of eastern province, will be crucial when a referendum on the merger of the two provinces is held next year.

Tamils comprise 43 per cent of the population and Sinhalese 24 per cent.

The EPRLF has denounced the merger of the east and north, where Tamils are the majority, as a scheme to divide the country along ethnic lines.

EPRLF spokesman George Thavaraj said the council, on which it will hold a majority, would press for rehabilitation and economic reconstruction of areas damaged by five years of ethnic strife.

Sudan defence chief backs pact with rebels despite missile attack

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's defence minister, whose plane was hit by a rebel-fired missile in southern Sudan, was reported Sunday as saying he remained committed to peace.

But Islamic fundamentalists used the attack to step up opposition to a peace accord reached last week between rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and one of the coalition partners in the Khartoum government.

State Radio Omdurman said Saturday a Soviet-made SAM-7 missile hit the plane taking Defence Minister Abdul Maged Hamed Khalil, Commander-in-Chief of the Sudanese Air Force, to Khartoum from a base in the beleaguered town of Wau Thursday.

The pilot regained control of the C-130 Hercules aircraft and landed again at Wau, 1,000 kilometres south of Khartoum. No one was hurt.

The attack came a day after SPLA leader John Garang signed a peace pact in Addis Ababa with Mohammed Osman Al Mirghani, head of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) in the ruling coalition.

The senior partner in the coalition, Prime Minister Sadeq Al

Mahdi's Umma Party, has cautiously welcomed the accord, which could end the plight of hundreds of thousands of southerners suffering famine and war devastation.

"It is painful to think the attack took place exactly at the time when Mirghani's plane landed at Khartoum airport bringing a peace initiative. It could have been a real disaster," the independent daily Al Usbu quoted Defence Minister Khalil as saying.

"Despite this, we still believe in peace as the right path for Sudan, but we want a serious and positive peace and not a tactical one aimed at achieving certain objectives," he said.

"We hope the other side shares our belief so as not to allow these foolish actions to pose hurdles to the peace process."

The militant National Islamic Front (NIF), the third largest member of the ruling coalition, said the missile attack "confirms what the front has been saying all along."

"Garang is harbouring treachery and deceit and only understands the language of war," NIF leader Hassan Al Tourabi said in remarks published Sunday.

The rebel SPLA has been fighting a five-year bush war against what it sees as domination of the south by Sudan's north.

The NIF said it planned a march in Khartoum Monday in protest against the attack on the defence minister's plane.

The DUP-SPLA accord, calling for a ceasefire and an end to a state of emergency, can take effect only if it is approved by Mahdi's coalition government and by parliament.

Garang told reporters after signing the pact that there would be no immediate ceasefire.

The accord also called for a freeze on new Sharia laws until a national constitutional conference opened on Dec. 31 to work out a power-sharing formula between Sudan's Muslim majority and its many ethnic and religious minorities.

The cabinet was to have discussed the accord Sunday, but official sources said the session was delayed to Monday to enable political parties to study it further.

Iraq, Iran to exchange more than 1,500 PoWs

BAGHDAD (R) — Red Cross officials began preparations in Iraq and Iran Sunday to exchange more than 1,500 sick or disabled prisoners of war (PoWs).

The officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) inspected the prisoners at camps in the two countries to ensure they could be repatriated later in the week, ICRC sources said.

The exchange, three months after a ceasefire went into force between Baghdad and Tehran, would be the largest since the Iran-Iraq war broke out in 1980, diplomats said.

Apart from humanitarian considerations, they said, it was an important confidence-building exercise which could help to break the deadlock over major issues at U.N.-mediated peace talks.

An agreement to repatriate all sick or wounded prisoners by the end of year was the only tangible result of the latest two-week round of negotiations in Geneva.

An ICRC spokesman said chartered aircraft would ferry the prisoners home, probably starting Tuesday.

The ICRC sources said 1,158 sick or disabled Iraqis and 411 Iranians would be flown to Baghdad and Tehran respectively in groups of about 100.

Hundreds of Iranian prisoners, dressed in yellow uniforms, were driven in Iraqi military buses to visit the Shi'ite shrine of Karbala north of Baghdad Saturday, witnesses said.

Iraq has freed 670 sick or wounded Iranians since the guns fell silent on the war front Aug. 20.

"Hardly an Iraqi family re-

mains unaffected by war — either with someone killed or wounded or taken prisoner," said a Western diplomat in Baghdad. "The return of prisoners is a popular issue here. People have been waiting for it."

U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, the basis of the ceasefire and three subsequent rounds of peace talks, stipulates that Iran and Iraq should exchange all 100,000 prisoners of war.

But the two countries remain far apart on agreement on a general release and on other major issues, such as a troop withdrawal to international boundaries.

Iraq has insisted that the Shatt Al Arab border waterway, its major outlet to the Gulf, must be cleared of war debris as a top priority.



MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Klibi, Bessiah discuss Lebanon

ALGIERS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, who is touring Arab capitals in connection with the convening of an Arab summit on the Lebanon crisis, conferred with Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessiah Sunday, the Algerian press agency APS said. They also reviewed the Middle East situation after the proclamation of an independent Palestinian state by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers Tuesday, APS said. Klibi, who arrived Saturday night, was due to brief Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on Lebanon and prospects for the summit proposed by the United Arab Emirates.

Denktash leaves for New York

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash flew to New York Sunday for resumed U.N.-sponsored peace talks with Cypriot President George Vassiliou. Denktash told reporters at Ataturk airport before departure that his delegation was going to the meetings with goodwill and the aim of setting up a bi-zonal federation with Turkey as guarantor. Denktash will meet with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Monday and with Vassiliou together with Perez de Cuellar Tuesday. Denktash arrived in Ankara Thursday and reviewed prospects of the peace talks with Turkish officials.

Iran to stage naval war games

NICOSIA (R) — The Iranian navy will stage war games in the Gulf and Gulf of Oman next month, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Sunday. IRNA, received in Nicosia, said the navy's commander, Rear-Admiral Hussein Malekzadeh, met President Ali Khamenei to brief him on the manoeuvres. Iran says it has the right to stop and search shipping in the Gulf until a lasting peace agreement is concluded with Iraq. But there have been no reports of such searches since Aug. 20, the first day of the ceasefire.

'U.S. journalist killed in Afghanistan'

MOSCOW (R) — A U.S. woman journalist was killed in fighting in Afghanistan's Paktia province after entering the country from Pakistan with a rebel group, the Soviet news agency TASS reported Sunday. TASS named the woman as Karin Ombecker. It said she was killed in Sayed Karam district "several days ago" and her body had been taken back to Pakistan by the rebels. "The circumstances of her death are not known," TASS said. It added that a "foreign adviser" to the rebels had also been killed in Gardez, the provincial capital of Paktia. It said the victim's nationality had not been established.

Iraqi vice-president visits W. Germany

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi Vice-President Taha Mohieddin Ma'ruf left Sunday for official visit to West Germany, the Iraqi News Agency INA reported. It said he would have talks in Bonn on regional and international issues and bilateral relations.

Israeli anti-occupation protester held

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police arrested a Jewish protester outside Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's home for wearing a campaign button with an Palestinian flag on his coat, a police spokesman said Sunday. Yohanan Larwin, a member of the group "Stop the Occupation," was arrested during a protest Saturday night "because he wore a Palestinian flag," said police spokesman Alex Lapidot. About 70 members of the group gathered in front of Shamir's home and called for an end to Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They also urged Israel to recognise the Palestinian state proclaimed last week by the Palestine National Council.

Algeria passes new programme

ALGIERS (R) — Twenty-one members of Algeria's National Assembly voted against the government Saturday, concluding a landmark debate in the new look politics born out of October's riots.

The house spent four days discussing a government programme presented for its approval under constitutional changes launched by President Chadli Benjedid in response to the economic and political discontents that sparked a week of riots in which 159 people died.

About 160 members spoke during the debate which, as a mark of Algeria's version of "glasnost," was broadcast live on radio and television. Some complained that the programme lacked specific remedies for problems officially blamed on falling income from oil and gas exports.



Chadli Benjedid

The new prime minister, Kasdi Merbah, who is the first head of government to submit a programme for parliamentary approval since Algeria won independence

in 1962, easily carried the day. The national news agency APS said 267 deputies voted for the programme, 21 voted against, two abstained and four were absent.

The programme centred on the economy, youth employment and reforms in education and housing.

Constitutional changes endorsed by a referendum Nov. 3 made the premier responsible to parliament rather than to the president. All members of the assembly belong to the National Liberation Front, which has ruled Algeria since leading and winning the struggle for independence from France.

A party congress is due Nov. 27 to approve a further package of reforms which will be submitted to another referendum in the new year.

Chad peace pact signed

BAGHDAD (R) — The Chadian government and the rebel National Front signed an agreement Saturday providing for an immediate ceasefire, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahamat Ito signed the national reconciliation agreement with former guerrilla leader Sheikh Ibn Omar Sa'eed, leader of the front.

The agency said both sides agreed to form a committee to handle the return of the front's fighters to the Chadian armed forces.

The agreement stipulated that all prisoners of war and political prisoners would be freed. The front would halt all harmful acts against the government, take part in a committee assigned to draft a new constitution and participate in the administration.

The pact includes government guarantees of freedom of expression, of the press, meetings and

political organisations. The agency said both sides would assist the return of refugees to Chad. The government would help them resettle and recover their property.

It quoted Ito as saying 230,000 refugees had already returned.

INA said Iraq had been trying to reconcile all factions in the Chad for more than three years. It said President Moussa Traore of Mali, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, had praised the agreement and congratulated Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for his efforts.

Chad last month restored relations with Libya following the two states' September 1987 ceasefire agreement. They agreed to settle their dispute over the Libyan-held Aouzou Strip in northern Chad peacefully.

Carter confirms letter to Iran

ATLANTA (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said Saturday that he wrote to Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini last month offering to mediate for the release of 10 American hostages in Lebanon.

But Tehran Radio said Khomeini had responded by describing relations between Iran and America as "that between a sheep and wolf" and ruling out any reconciliation.

Carter said in a statement issued in Atlanta, Georgia, that his aim in writing was to secure

the release of David Rabhan, a friend who has been in prison in Iran for nearly nine years.

He also said his letter had been in response to an initiative from Iran, but Carrie Harmon, the former president's official spokeswoman, refused to elaborate on this.

Carter said in his statement: "In my note, I was responding to an initiative from Iran. My purpose was to obtain the release of David Rabhan, a friend of mine who has been in prison in Iran for almost nine years."

"My hope is that in the name of justice and humanity Iran will use its influence to encourage the release of all American hostages by working through normal channels."

His spokeswoman said Carter did not want to discuss what, if any, further action he would take.

In 1980, the last year of the Carter presidency, the United States failed in a bid, using military helicopters, to rescue 52 hostages held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

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King: PLO has done its part

(Continued from page 1)

of 1967, then that is an entirely different situation." The King rejected suggestions that a Palestinian state would be a "threat" to Jordan.

"I see no threat in any form or way," the King said. "The problem is a Palestinian problem to be resolved on Palestinian territories. As for Palestinians in Jordan or anywhere else in the world who have been evicted from their own land, there are pertinent U.N. resolutions for their return or compensation. I believe that this is what was meant by the Algiers declaration."

In any event, the King said, the Arab-Israeli conflict should be addressed in the context of international efforts to settle regional problems — problems that threaten regional stability anywhere and world peace, and a lot has been done over the past

period and I hope that with the new U.S. administration, in terms of president-elect Bush taking his responsibilities, that the U.S. will look again at the problem. I know this is a transitional phase, but I hope very, very much indeed that the future will see the U.S. actively engaged, along with the Soviet Union and other members of the Security Council and the parties (involved) in the conflict to resolve it. And this is the last most serious problem that besets the world."

On the possibility of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, the King said: We believe "this may very well be the case but we will have to wait for the proper time and circumstances."

"The original concept was of obviously a Palestinian state (and) a Jordanian state in terms of governments in both, house of representatives... a federal gov-

ernment as is the case in the relations in many similar entities..."

Replying to a question on the situation in Jordan, the King said they "problems in the country" are not any more or any less what others are facing in the world, in this area or even to an extent some of the much stronger countries and more powerful ones... We are passing through a phase of economic difficulty brought about by the main fact that as of the Baghdad summit we were promised a lot of help, specific help over a number of years and this hasn't materialised. So we are having to do whatever we can, tighten our belts and at the same time to ensure that we will not only pass through this stage but in the future Jordan can stand on its own and face up to its responsibilities towards its future generations, and contribute towards a better and stable area."

Sunday's session was chaired by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who stressed the need for the involvement of all sectors in the new economic and social phase Jordan is currently passing through and said that this "delicate stages makes it incumbent on all of us to use our minds and to adopt the constructive self-criticism approach."

Prince Hassan called for general dialogue "which gives us the opportunity to chart the way for our present and future."

Prince Hassan said the involvement of the various sectors, particularly the banking and financial sectors, would yield significant achievements.

Regional recommendations issued

(Continued from page 1)

transport and tourism to study the possibility of constructing an airport in the northern governorates.

The committee further called for the implementation of 'Ain Al Quntara in Wadi Ajloun and for developing the Himmia spa and for restoration of the Ajloun Castle and for introducing a faculty for tourism at the Yarmouk University.

It also called on the Tourism Ministry and the Tourist Investment Department to draw up an integrated plan for tourist investments in the northern governorates.

The local council and environment sector committee recommended that

all local and joint services councils set up productive projects and for the creation of local development council for the northern province.

It also called for the creation of a higher council for provincial planning and for drawing up a comprehensive plan for the use of land in each province.

The industry sector committee called for establishing a Jordanian chamber of industry and for the creation of an industrial information bank which will be entrusted with providing data and information to all industrialists and for undertaking studies that ensure the integration of industries in

each province.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-14

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme review
16:00 Children's programmes
16:05 News summary in Arabic
16:15 World News
16:20 Arabic series
16:25 Local programme
16:30 News summary
16:35 Instrumentals
16:40 Old Favourites
16:45 Young Sound
16:50 Arab Scientists
16:55 News Summary
17:00 Sports Roundup
17:05 Music
17:10 News Desk
17:15 Date with a Star
17:20 Evening Show
17:25 News Summary
17:30 Evening Show Continued
17:35 News Summary
17:40 Evening Show Continued
17:45 Close Down

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 French documentary
18:30 Rue Carnot
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Ever Decreasing Circles
21:10 Enemy at the door
22:00 News in English
22:30 Variety show (cont'd.)

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 KHz. FM & partly on 9500 KHz. SW. Tel. 77111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show

MUSEUMS

Children's Heritage and Science Museum: Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Oal (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00

PRAYER TIMES

6:44 Fajr
11:21 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
14:14 'Asr
16:38 Maghreb
17:58 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624599

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lawzehed. Tel. 627440

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 641757 Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m. - winter time 5 p.m.)

Terrace Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Lawzehed, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. 815200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:10 Aqaba (RJ)

09:30 Amman (RJ)

09:45 Amman (RJ)

10:10 Amman (RJ)

10:30 Amman (RJ)

10:45 Amman (RJ)

11:00 Amman (RJ)

11:15 Amman (RJ)

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13:30 Amman (RJ)

13:45 Amman (RJ)

14:00 Amman (RJ)

14:15 Amman (RJ)

14:30 Amman (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Clouds appear on different altitudes and another increase on temperature occurs. Winds will be southwesterly moderate to Amman. It will be partly cloudy and winds northerly moderate becoming southerly fresh and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp

Amman 11/17

Aqaba 11/17

Desert 2/19

Jordan Valley 10/24

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:20 Amman (RJ)

09:35 Amman (RJ)

09:50 Amman (RJ)

10:05 Amman (RJ)

10:20 Amman (RJ)

10:35 Amman (RJ)

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12:20 Amman (RJ)

12:35 Amman (RJ)

12:50 Amman (RJ)

13:05 Amman (RJ)

13:20 Amman (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Majed Abu Senech 881635

Dr. Abdul Majid Al Shor 791405

Dr. Mahmoud Allan 884869

Dr. Naji Tayem 884544

First pharmacy 641912

Ferlows pharmacy 778336

Al Asena pharmacy 637055

Nairukh pharmacy 623672

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING RECEIVES CABLE OF GOOD WISHES: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received a cable of good wishes from the Greek President Christos Sartzetakis who was flying over the Jordanian airspace. Sartzetakis wished the King continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

PRINCE MOHAMMAD CONDOLES: His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Sunday delegated director of his office to convey his condolences to Al Hmoud family over the death of the late mother of Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud. (Petra)

CONDOLENCES: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday delegated Balqa Governor Mujhim Al Khreisha to convey condolences to Al Hmoud family over the death of the mother of Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud. (Petra)

MADABA TO CELEBRATE KING'S BIRTHDAY: The Madaba district Monday celebrates His Majesty King Hussein's birthday by organising a scout march and a public rally, where representatives of the various government departments and people from all walks of life will deliver speeches highlighting the importance of the occasion. (Petra)

SHARIF ZAID RECEIVES AUSTRIAN AIDE: Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Sunday received Austrian Defence Minister and discussed with him issues of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff Fahd Abu Taleb (Petra).

KHATIB IN DAMASCUS: Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib Sunday arrived in Damascus for talks with his Syrian counterpart Kamel Al Baba on bilateral relations in the field of energy and mineral resources. (Petra)

RUSSEIFA ROAD PROJECT: Russeifa Municipal Council Sunday offered a tender for the asphalted of 35,000 square metres of roads at a cost of JD 87,500. (Petra)

FLOOD PRECAUTIONS: The Madaba district governor Saturday said that the public security departments are ready to deal with any eventuality that could be caused by rainfall this season. He urged citizens living near wadis and streams to be cautious in the wake of possible floods. (Petra)

AWQAF PROJECTS IN MA'AN: The Awqaf Department in the Ma'an Governorate spent JD 109,000 last year on projects related to mosques. This included building a mosque in Shobak sub-district at JD 50,000, building two mosques in Wadi Moussa region at JD 25,000, in addition to maintaining and expanding a number of mosques at JD 34,000. (Petra)

TRANSPORT OPERATIONS ROOM: Transport and Telecommunications Ministry is currently establishing an operations room in the ministry for reference in matters dealing with the sectors of transport by land, air, and sea, railways, telecommunications, postal services and weather forecast. Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan has sought to provide the ministry with all the necessary information to facilitate the duties of the recently formed committee to execute this idea. (Petra)

Jordan to take part in talks on children's rights

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a regional conference on children's rights due to open in Alexandria, Egypt Monday. The three-day conference, which is sponsored by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will be attended by Ministry of Social Development Secretary General Dr. Mohammad Suqour who left for Cairo Sunday. The conference is part of a world-wide programme conducted by the organisation to enlist official and public support for a new charter on child's rights which will be submitted to the U.N. General Assembly for approval in the coming year.

Wadi Shu'eib survey to help excavations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three days of preliminary survey of the Wadi Shu'eib were conducted earlier this year, under the direction of Katherine Wright, a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology at Yale University. The purpose of the brief preliminary project was to obtain an overview of the potential of the wadi for future systematic survey. It is hoped that information obtained from this first step will help in the design of a research strategy for a long-term systematic survey project of Wadi Shu'eib. The future project will explore the settlement history of the wadi as an important route of trade and communication between major settlements of the Jordan Valley and the East Bank highlands, from prehistoric times to the end of the Ottoman period. In three days of survey along the banks of the wadi, the preliminary study identified 21 sites ranging from prehistoric to modern times. Most of the sites identified were small scatters of ceramics and flints and several were already known. One site of particular interest in an occupation dating to Roman and Byzantine times as well as earlier periods. The site has exposed masonry structures and is located near the centre of the Wadi Shu'eib. The Wadi Shu'eib has until now not been surveyed in detail and the preliminary project was conducted in order to learn whether the wadi contains sites of many periods. The modern settlements suggested that it was a very ancient route of communication and a focus of settlement. Preliminary evidence indicates that the wadi does contain numerous settlements of many periods. It is hoped that further work will take place in the future, to document the settlement history of Wadi Shu'eib in detail. The project expressed its gratitude to the Department of Antiquities and its former Director-General, Dr. Adnan Hadidi, for their generosity in granting permission to conduct the three-day preliminary survey.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of rare Arabic coins at the Central Bank of Jordan.
- ★ A book exhibition of recent American publications on economics, management, business, and other topics of interest to students and professionals in business and public administration at the American Centre.
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by eight Jordanian artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Abdul Ra'ouf Shamoun at Jordan Association of Plastic Arts hall.
- ★ Brass plates exhibition by Hrach Loulou 18.00 hrs, French Cultural Centre.

DIALOGUE

- ★ Worldnet Dialogue on the Anti-smoking movement with U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, at 4:00 p.m., American Centre.

LECTURE

- ★ Haifa Al Bashir talks about the Jordanian war in between practice and aspiration, at 6:00 p.m., Abdul P. A Shoman Foundation.

FILM

- ★ "Sleuth" at 7:00 p.m. at the British Council.

Seminar dealing with higher education policies opens today

By Caroline Faraj
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A seminar entitled "Access to Higher Education" will open Monday at the University of Jordan under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The symposium, which runs until Nov. 24, will discuss a host of subjects dealing with higher educational policies and their objectives, application of these policies on Arab and foreign students, and admission systems in Arab universities. At least 80 specialists, educationalists, and university professors from Arab and foreign countries will take part in the meetings organised by the University of Jordan, the Association of Arab Universities and the International Association of Universities. Also Monday Prince Hassan will open a three-day meeting on "end-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development in

the Western Asia region." The meeting, which was organised by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in cooperation with the U.N. Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), will involve discussions by a regional group of experts on science and technology in West Asia during the eighties, science and technology and social needs specific to the region, science and technology for industries and services in the region and utilising opportunities of new and emerging areas of science and technology specific to Western Asia. Some 40 participants from Arab and foreign countries and 15 specialists from Jordan will take part in the meeting which is to be held at the Amman Plaza Hotel. Delegates to attend will come from Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon, North Yemen, India, Brazil and Switzerland in addition to U.N. organisations.

On Sunday Prince Hassan met in Irbid with representatives of Jordanian banks taking part in a seminar to assess the work and achievements of the development councils in Irbid and Mafraq Governorates, Jordan News Agency, Petra reported. Prince Hassan stressed the importance of the banking sector in promoting the Kingdom's development process and invited banks to make a meaningful contribution to Jordan's development plans within the general concept of comprehensive development, Petra said.

Meeting discusses water pipe protection against corrosion

AMMAN (J.T.) — Participants in a nine-day regional seminar on water resources Sunday reviewed a research paper by Dr. Robert Prevost, a senior engineer from the World Bank, on means of protecting water pipes against corrosion. A second research paper was presented by Dr. Philip Jeff Coate, consultant engineer at the World Bank. The meeting which opened here Saturday under the title of "Regional Seminar on Urban Water System Management," is being attended by delegates from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Morocco, Pakistan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, South and North Yemen, and Jordan.

The seminar has been organised by the WHO, the World Bank, and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. The seminar, which was attended by representatives of 17 hotels in Jordan, discussed means to rationalise energy consumption and to introduce ways to prevent any wastage of fuel and electric power inside hotels. The seminar was held at the Amman Marriott Hotel, in cooperation with the French embassy, is organising the event which will run until Dec. 1, 1988, displaying a variety of activities which include a trade exhibition, with a number of French companies in Jordan making presentations.

PSD reports increase in asphyxiation cases

AMMAN (J.T.) — The number of asphyxiation cases reported to the Public Security Department (PSD) has recently increased and most of them are due to improper means of using heaters at home, according to a PSD statement Sunday. Leaving a home unventilated before sleeping or leaving heaters and charcoal alight in the house were the main causes of the asphyxiation cases reported, according to the statement. It urged citizens to take extra care when using oil products or wood and charcoal for warmth at home and to keep one of the windows open. According to another PSD report a total of five persons died and 150 injured in road accidents in different parts of the Kingdom during the first week of November 1988. It said that the casualties, most of which took place in Amman region, were caused by a total of 432 accidents involving pedestrians knocked down by cars, vehicle collisions and cars sliding on slippery roads. In the meantime a seminar to spread public awareness against road accidents and means of protection against them was held at Sukkainah school in Amman. Among the speakers was the president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents.

Hotels urged to adopt solar heating to save energy

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar organised by the Energy and Electricity Information and Advisory Centre in Amman has urged hotels to adopt the solar heating system to save energy and fuel in water heating and to take practical steps to seal windows and prevent leakage of cold air. The seminar, which was

No jobs for assistant pharmacists, HCH warns

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Higher Council of Health (HCH) Sunday issued a statement advising students to avoid studying subjects to qualify them to work as assistant pharmacists or laboratory technicians, because it said Jordan has a surplus of graduates from universities and community colleges who are still unemployed, both in the Kingdom and abroad.

The HCH has been receiving new applications from community colleges to open courses for students to study these specialisations and this prompted the council to caution students against taking this study, and to demand that no colleges give further courses of this nature, the statement said. According to the statement, surveys conducted in Jordan over the past two years showed that the Kingdom is in no need of graduates with these specialisations for the coming few years. Despite continued public statements explaining the situation from the Health Ministry and the HCH some students are still approaching colleges with applications but they should realise that no employment is available for them once they graduate, the statement pointed out. Indeed, it said, some private sector community colleges have closed these specialisations and

turned their attention to subjects that can be of benefit for citizens and open employment opportunities for them, in Jordanian and Arab countries' labour markets. The HCH conducted a survey in 1986 which revealed that a surplus of 2,800 graduates specialising in subjects qualifying them to work as laboratory technicians or assistant pharmacists will be available in Jordan by 1990 at the current rate, the statement pointed out. It said that the HCH has consequently ordered the closure of these courses in public community colleges, and reducing to a minimum their number in private colleges. Jordan now has 57 community colleges which offer training to some 40,000 students in various specialisations.

Hindawi to study use of computers in schools while visiting Britain

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi left Sunday for London at the head of a delegation which will tour British educational institutions and hold talks on cooperation in using computers in Jordanian schools. Last year, Britain and Jordan signed memoranda under which Britain would lend Jordan £3.229 million to help it purchase computers for training children at schools run by the Ministry of Education. The deal provided for Britain to supply 2,000 computer sets and provide expertise to help employ them at schools. The loan was part of a £10 million development programme agreed upon by Britain and Jordan to finance a number of schemes included in the current five-year national development plan. No less than 75,000 students will benefit from the computers in the first stage, according to Ministry of Education officials. According to these officials, the introduction of computers into schools is seen as part of the national effort to overhaul the educational system in Jordan as called for in the resolutions and recommendations of the first national educational conference held last year. Hindawi will spend the week-long visit in Britain by holding meetings with officials and visiting education and computer teaching schools and will take part in educational seminars to be held at London University and at the British Broadcasting Corporation.

French Week opens on Nov. 27 to promote trade with Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A French Week is to open in Amman on Nov. 27 to promote trade between France and Jordan. The Amman Marriott Hotel, in cooperation with the French embassy, is organising the event which will run until Dec. 1, 1988, displaying a variety of activities which include a trade exhibition, with a number of French companies in Jordan making presentations. Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa will inaugurate the French Week, which will feature also a fashion show and a special dinner honouring the famous soccer player Michel Platini. Proceeds from the dinner in honour of Platini and fashion show will benefit charity in Jordan. The French commercial attache here held a press conference in Amman Sunday to give details about the French Week. He said that Jordan is considered as an important trade partner of France and that bilateral trade exchanges were continuously developing. France is the second major European importer of Jordanian phosphate, potash, vegetables and fruit and France has contributed to the Jordanian development schemes specially in transport, telecommunications, civil aviation.

Sapho — human explosion

By John West
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Sapho, the Moroccan-born French singer who started and finished a whistlestop tour to Jordan in the Philadelphia Theatre Saturday night, rarely leaves her audience indifferent. "Stunning," "Rubbish," "pure music" and "pure noise" were just some of the descriptions being thrown around last night. In fact, the strangest comment I came across was from one of the doorkeepers, who when asked what he thought about two hours of rockified Arab melodies, progressive rantings, animal impressions, avant garde instrumentals and Um Kulthum memorials, said it was "very nice". The rest of the audience were not so phlegmatic. By the end of the show, some of them had voted with their feet and left, others were on their feet clapping furiously for an encore, while the remainder sat covering in their chairs, not quite sure if it was yet safe to move. Some thought that audiences were clearly not developed enough for her talents (what Radio Jordan's Zafar Tougan would undoubtedly call "progressive"), while others thought that her talents were clearly not developed enough for her audiences. Just as an average group of people falls into those who like cats and those who like dogs, those who do the washing up after a meal and those who wait until before the next one, so did Saturday night's audience separate into Saphophiles and Saphophobes. One thing there is no doubting though — the lady has guts, plenty of them. She entered from the back dressed as a peacock. When divested of her feathers, she was found to be wearing a coy black pencil dress that belied her wild gyrations. She moaned, she groaned, she slumped to the floor, she ran up and down the stage, she jumped up and down in time to the music, she rhythmically jerked her head from side to side in the long forgotten headbang.

MUSIC REVIEW

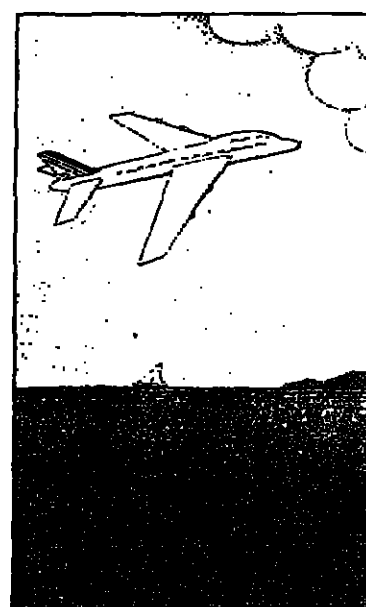
she sidled, she leapt, she shrieked, whimpered, crooned, and generally made a spectacle of herself. If she had had the slightest hesitancy, in fact, she would have made a fool of herself. But she did not. The bemused audience ground themselves into the back of their seats, doing their best to absorb this novel experience by osmosis. But Ms. Sapho was certainly not having any of this passivity. "Shout, it's good for you, shout" she cried as she jumped offstage into the front row. At first it looked as if irresistible force had finally met unmovable object — the warbled replies to the singalong number were indeed feeble, and the band actually stopped paying mid-song in what we can only suppose was disgust for the crowd's lack of anarchistic frenzy. But little by little, almost imperceptibly, the shells of self-consciousness were broken as youths obeyed her medical injunction to get up, twist and shout. Whether they shouted with her or against her, to give her backing or to drown her out, will remain open to posterity. I doubt, however, whether Sapho really cares — response was what she wanted and response was what she ultimately got. The audience left the theatre visibly more shaken than the band, who later appeared, smiling and demure, as though fresh from a country walk, in an Arab restaurant. The band was certainly a sight to behold. Muhammad Hadi graced a variety of instruments, including the electric guitar, oud, and not easily identifiable variants, with stoic mastery and sartorial elegance, bearded, turbaned, and dressed in Turkish style baggy pants. Adequate if anonymous performances on bass, keyboards and drums were surpassed by Pascal Trogoff on sax and clarinet. That he made the sax and clarinet seem natural key partners in a medley which included Balero, North African folk melodies, and progressive French rock, is the highest possible tribute. The Camerounian Mr. Feedback, on percussion, did just that, adding the essential extra pulse to make the whole truly more than the sum of its parts. As for the music itself well who cares?

AMERICA: CLOSER BY THE DOZEN.

Every week, Air France offers 65 flights between Paris and the 12 most important cities in the United States and Canada. Every week, Air France offers two Airbus flights between Amman and Paris on Sundays and Fridays. While welcomed in

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Jordan Times

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Iran: Welcome if reasonable

THE conciliatory gestures emanating from Tehran towards better relations with the Arab states are indeed welcome, since there is no question that the stability and security of the Gulf and Middle East region depend on harmonious ties among all the area's countries.

Several questions, however, remain to be answered: how serious is the Iranian leadership towards looking for a new framework for relations with the Arab World after eight years of bloody war with Iraq? To what extent can the Arabs trust the intentions of Iran whose leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has described peace with Iraq as "bitter poison"? Above all, can we overlook the possibility that the "better relations" that the Iranian leaders are talking about could merely be a stop-gap measure before they resume their aggressive plans, and could thus serve as a smokescreen for the export of the revolutionary policies of the Khomeini regime?

Having had the bitter experience of trying in vain to reason with Tehran over the need to accept a negotiated settlement of the war with Iraq, we need no reminders that the Iranian leadership could still be harbouring designs on the Iraqi and Arab Homeland.

At the same time, no-one is challenging the fact that Iran, as a Muslim country and a regional state, has a legitimate role to play in the Islamic World as well as in a regional context, and we all hope that Tehran will assume that role with diligence and responsibility.

The first step, however, towards such an objective has to come from Iran itself through accepting basic norms in international relations — all ties between states can only be based on unequivocal acceptance of non-interference in the internal affairs of one another, be it on a religious level or otherwise. The quicker Iran accepts this principle, the better the chances for Arab-Iranian reconciliation and smoother relations.



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Sunday discussed the situation in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip which witnessed a general strike Saturday as part of current efforts to escalate the uprising against the Israeli occupation. The paper said the Palestinian people have by their heroic resistance and steadfastness aborted the Israeli plans to evict the Arab population and to impose total domination on Palestinian lands. There is no doubt that the Palestinians draw on the support given to them by their Arab brethren in general and Jordan in particular in their continued resistance against the Israeli forces and Zionist settlers, the paper noted. It said that it should be noted that Israel's actions against the Arab population will not stop and therefore more support for the Palestinians from their Arab brothers should be continuous. Jordan which paved the way for the proclamation of the Palestinian state by severing ties with the West Bank continues to shoulder its responsibility towards its brothers in the occupied territories, the paper added. It said that much work is needed now on the pan-Arab level to bolster the resistance and to pave the way for peace in the Middle East.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily criticises the Soviet stand with regard to the Palestinian state because Moscow has voiced support for the proclamation of this state but not for the state itself. Ibrahim Abu Naab says it was strange to see Moscow acting in this manner despite the fact that it has attended the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers and was consulted before the proclamation was made. He reminds the readers that the Soviet Union was among a few countries which recognised the state of Israel immediately upon its proclamation in 1948 when no such state had yet materialised. But Abu Naab says that no one should blame the Soviets because they have their own interests to consider in the first place and they could have been influenced by Washington's ideas which call for direct talks between the Arabs and the Israelis and that no outside solution should be imposed on the Israelis.

Al Dastour daily commented Sunday on the two-day meeting of the development councils in the northern regions of Jordan which was opened by Prince Hassan Saturday. The meeting it said was a manifestation by the government to conduct a revision and a review of regional development plans so that amendments can be introduced and improvements made. The past lessons and experience should help the planners and the council members to conduct amendments and rectify the economic process wherever reforms and amendments are required, the paper noted. But it echoed Prince Hassan's call on all citizens and private and public organisations to maintain close cooperation in view of the new phase in Jordan's economy. The Prince has called for adaptation to new realities and directing of efforts towards serving the national interest and realising the Kingdom's economic plans, the paper added. There is no doubt, it said, that sound planning, close cooperation and adaptation to the new situation can take the country along a sound course towards progress.

Sawt Al Shaab daily also commented on the development councils meeting which opened in Irbid and said that dialogue between officials and members of the public can lead to a successful formula blending the efforts of the private and public sectors. The present economic situation which requires rationalisation of spending and more self dependency and a stemming of imports is clearly designed to put things back along the sound track towards progress, the paper noted. It echoed an advice by Prince Hassan for the development councils to give priorities more attention and to involve all sectors in the development process.

Justice for old retirees too

By Waleed Sadi

IN MY previous Monday column I opened Pandora's box by touching upon an untouchable subject regarding the legal and economical relations between tenants and landlords. To speak on behalf of landlords is literally taboo in the tenant culture prevailing in our society. Now I raise another unpopular subject on behalf of pensioners whom I call the forgettable segment of our society. After all they are the breed of Jordanians who have put in 15 or 20 odd years of their lives in the service of their government and earned a certain pension. There is nothing inherently wrong with that except that their pension is "absolutely" fixed instead of being relatively so.

To drive my point home I wish to refer to the case of a former senior official who was put on retirement back in 1970 and allotted the then fair and square monthly pension of JD 85. That poor high official was content momentarily with his income and was able to live off it in that economic epoch. Years passed by rather quickly and that poor retiree woke up one day in 1982 to find that the purchasing power of his JD 85 was no more than JD 55 in comparison with value in the early seventies. And as the years continued to pass by him and his JD 85 monthly pension, he reached the year of 1988 to discover that the purchasing power of

his monthly pension amount was no more than JD 35 in comparison with that of 1970. To exacerbate his anger and frustration even more he noticed that officials of his rank and seniority in the service of the government who retired from governmental service in 1988 would earn nearly JD 300 in monthly pension.

The sense and dimension of inequity and injustice in the operation of the government's pension programme is too clear to mention. The tragedy lies in the fact that all concerned know that there is a gross injustice in the whole pension formula as applied by the government. It may not have dawned on them the fact that all old pensioners ask for is not an increase in their pension but rather a cost of living adjustment to enable the old warriors who served their government lead an honourable and decent life. Why, for example, should a grade 1 official retired in 1975 be earning in 1988, 75 per cent less than his counterpart who retires in 1988? Is it not obvious that the two have to live under similar economic conditions? Or is it the fault of the 1970 retiree for stubbornly continuing to live and see the latest wave of inflationary trends?

Oh yes, the concerned officials would be fast on the draw and offer the same old and archaic argument that does not baffle a country like ours which we maintain is within the realm of advanced states of the world. What I have in mind is the worn out thesis that we are a poor country and do not have money to emulate the practices of all the advanced countries of the world in such domains by incorporating the cost of living indexation formula. I have a simple rebuttal to such mediocre and shallow presentation. Whatever money we have we must put in one presentation. What we must do is to divide it among us fairly and squarely. In other words I choose to be generous with the 1988 retirees, I would before I choose to be generous with the 1988 retirees, I would make sure first that the previous retirees are getting their equitable share of the cake no matter how meager it is. And if we have not yet heard of cost of living adjustments, then there is something old premises in order to render more justice to old, reexamine old premises in order to render more justice to old, present or future retirees. And lest the concerned officials forget, this cycle of old, present and future generations of retirees would hit them and their children as well sooner or later. So the sooner we rectify this manifestly wrong practice, the better it would be for all of us.

Victory makes Bhutto pathbreaker for Muslim women

By John Rogers
Reuters

CAIRO — If Benazir Bhutto comes to power in Pakistan, she will be taking a giant symbolic stride for Muslim women excluded from political leadership.

As the only woman leader of an Islamic state, she will challenge traditional conservative views of women as homemakers and mothers — but not rulers — in Muslim countries throughout Asia and the Arab World.

"If she wins, it will be one up for Islam," said Malaysian former deputy prime minister Datuk Musa Hitam. "It would show the world how progressive the religion is."

Women throughout the male-dominated Third World have broken down social barriers in recent decades to take senior jobs in business, the professions, education, the civil service and — in limited numbers — politics.

Only a handful of conservative Arab countries still exclude women from political life.

But few women have risen to the top and a woman has never led an Islamic state — though Indira Gandhi led secular India with its 100 million Muslims for 14 years.

The 46 members of the Islamic Conference Organisation have only a sprinkling of women government ministers between them, often handling women's or social affairs.

But Bhutto, whose Pakistan People's Party (PPP) was set on Thursday to become the largest single party in the legislature, could help to change social attitudes if she becomes Pakistan's next leader.

She could pose protocol problems for some leaders, though

even the most conservative have become accustomed to dealing with foreign women leaders from non-Muslim countries.

Iranians remember television film of Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati meeting Indira Gandhi, not shaking hands with her and avoiding looking her straight in the face.

Malaysian Islamic Affairs Minister Yusof Noor said his country would welcome a woman leader in an Islamic country because "we have always treated men and women equally in accordance with Islam."

But some politicians and authorities questioned by Reuters correspondents in Muslim capitals saw Bhutto as a challenge — welcome or unwelcome — to entrenched rulers.

"If an Islamic nation elects a woman democratically, it sends out very strong signals against the established order," said New Delhi politics professor C.P. Bhambhri.

Bhutto's election "will push women forward in politics, but in other fields too," he added.

"Her victory is a triumph of democracy," said Begum Khaleida Zia, leader of a seven-party opposition Alliance in Bangladesh.

The idea that a woman should not bid for power in a Muslim country was "one theory advanced by reactionary groups who try to prolong their misrule," she said.

"When it comes to democratic rights, there is no difference between a man and a woman."

The opposite view prevails in conservative Arab states like Kuwait, where women are barred by law from becoming ministers or voting.

Tradition discourages social

contact between unrelated men and women and this is one of the greatest obstacles to women entering politics.

"It is still not very well accepted that Kuwaiti women sit with men and negotiate with them," said Badria Al Awadhi, a senior official and former law professor.

Women protested against a 1985 ruling by religious authorities: "There is no (religious) justification for women to demand the vote. Islam does not permit women to forfeit their basic commitments" (of bearing and rearing children).

Others supported the ban. "I believe that women should not take part in elections because there is nothing in the Holy Koran or Sunna which supports this act," said Sheikhah Latifa Fahad Al Salem Al Sabah, wife of the Kuwaiti prime minister and crown prince.

A senior Jordanian official said Islam did not permit a woman to be head of state because of the duties the job imposed.

"One of the duties... is to be ready to give sermons to the Muslims — and this a woman can't do," said Ibrahim Al Qaisi, head of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs' zakat (alms) fund.

Egypt, the largest Arab state, has 18 women members in its 458-seat parliament and one cabinet minister. But M.P. Fayda Kamel doesn't think a woman can become prime minister.

"We wish Benazir Bhutto all the luck, but I don't think her success if she becomes a ruler will have any impact on Egyptian women's role in politics," Kamel said.

Things are similar in Turkey, despite half a century of universal

suffrage. Labour Minister Imren Aykut is the only woman minister and the second woman to hold

cabinet rank in a democratically-elected government.

Iranian women are discouraged

from taking up politics and 1979 constitution says the president should be a man.

Election sets Pakistan on road to democracy

By Bryan Wilder
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Benazir Bhutto's election victory set Pakistan on the road to democracy and was the repudiation she had sought of the general who overthrew her father 11 years ago.

President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq was not present to suffer public embarrassment. He died in a plane crash three months ago.

Gen. Zia overthrew Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977, after Pakistan's last open national assembly election, and Bhutto later was convicted of complicity in a murder conspiracy. He was hanged in 1979.

Zia still has many supporters among the military and the affluent, but the judiciary began restoring democracy after his death and, in Wednesday's election, the people took a huge second step.

Ms. Bhutto's populist Pakistan People's Party, founded by her father, proved that it still was the nation's most powerful political organisation.

It won 92 of the 205 national assembly seats at stake, far more than the 54 gained by a conservative alliance of Zia loyalists. Ms. Bhutto should be the next prime minister if she can form a majority coalition.

After ruling by martial law for

eight years after the coup, Zia held elections for a civilian government in 1985. Political parties were not allowed to enter candidates, and Ms. Bhutto's followers and others in the opposition boycotted the vote.

Zia let the government, under Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, preside with limited powers until May, then dismissed it and the national assembly on grounds of corruption, incompetence and slowness in applying Islamic law.

The constitution required elections be held within 90 days, but Zia ignored it. In late July he called them for Nov. 16, again on a non-party basis. He died in the crash Aug. 17.

Sources close to the general have confirmed that Zia intended the elections to coincide with the birth of Ms. Bhutto's first child so her personal campaigning would be limited. She is married to Asif Ali Zardari, a Karachi businessman.

Ms. Bhutto, 35, gave birth to a full-term boy Sept. 21. After Zia was killed, family sources admitted they had said the baby was due in late November or early December to foil Zia's plans.

Zia's iron control began to slip in June when the supreme court, responding to a petition filed by Ms. Bhutto, struck down his decree empowering the government

to accept or reject political parties applying to enter an election. When Zia died, the election passed to the president of the senate, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, 73-year-old constitution scholar.

Ishaq Khan hinted at changing his first news conference on the day Zia was buried, would let the courts rule on the constitutionality of non-party elections.

In decisions this fall, the supreme court struck down the party rule and condemned Zia's dismissal of the Junejo government as capricious. It also blocked an attempt by Junejo to assume office, however, on grounds that might interfere with free fair elections.

Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, Zia's successor as army commander, assured the public he had no political aspirations and pledged to keep the military out of election.

In doubt is Zia's plan for ending Islam into every aspect of Pakistani life.

Ms. Bhutto has said Islam should be Pakistan's religion but not its politics, and has pledged not to let it interfere with the rights of women or minorities. The Zia loyalists pledged support in their election platform but rarely mentioned it in campaign speeches.

India celebrates Nehru's centenary

Nehru, a statesman with vision, idealism

By L. Ramnarayan

JEDDAH — Attired in his famed 'kurta and chudidar' and a Gandhi cap atop his balding pate, stooped shoulders with a world of worries on it, and hands locked behind his back, the lonely figure walks into the bright orange of a sunset.

The pictorial vision of a doyen of India is still vivid in my mind 24 years after his death. So is another moment in time etched in my mind when like many other children dressed in starched school dress this child was one in the crowd gathered to see their beloved 'Chacha Nehru' in a Bombay maidan on Nov. 14 in the early sixties.

His overflowing joy at seeing the multitudes of neatly-arrayed children waving the Indian flag was unabashed and it encompassed all present. For it was spontaneous and unabashed. This was one of the unique traits in the multi-faceted man, who is still remembered as a towering giant in the subcontinent. For he proved the adhesive, first, in uniting a country born after a Caesarian operation, and then giving it a definite direction, as he led the newborn with a blend of gentleness and firmness through the initial trying periods.

The first "distant" glimpse for this 'child' was the only close contact with the great leader, on whom many have waxed eloquent or have cut to shreds if the occasion merited. But through it all the magnetic smile which had captivated all remained in tact. Even today his memory is alive with every child in the nation gaining an insight of the man, the father, the freedom fighter and the politician when "Children's Day" is celebrated on Nov. 14.

But as is the case with all time proved a remorseless taskmaster. And Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,

whose birth centenary India is celebrating this year, felt that he lacked just that despite 18 years in centre stage after his famed inaugural address as the prime minister of a new nation. A nation which he thought was making a trust with destiny.

"Long years ago we made a trust with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly and in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will wake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance," he said in the Constituent Assembly of India on the midnight of Aug. 14, 1947.

The speech suggests the pragmatism which he showed throughout his career, which had its tough and crest. For it was he who led the way. While his mentor Mahatma Gandhi, who set India's freedom fight on the right track, made the Indians conscious of their rights, it was Nehru who made them modern in their outlook, secular, proud of their past and eager for a secure future.

As a fresh Harrow and Cambridge scholar he returned to India in 1913 to take part in the Indian struggle to lift the yoke of British imperialism. But he was soon disappointed by the toothless and tame nature of the fight offered by the then Indian leadership. The appearance of Mahatma Gandhi on the scene dramatically altered the direction of the struggle and Nehru was drawn into this novel non-violent method of fighting. This participation in the non-cooperation movement proved a profound experience for the youth, who drew on this in later years.

Nehru realised that the nationalist struggle would be only appreciated if placed in a global context. He argued that the Indian nationalist struggle could not be viewed purely as a political struggle. It was equally a social and economic struggle. And from this he built the lines on which India would be chugging in the future — socialism.

His struggle to bring in socioeconomic changes and heavy accent on science and technology are the props on which India stands today. For Nehru thought science was the way to attain greater heights. With Nehru, science was a matter of faith. Said he: "You think of science as a method or approach to life and life's problem in general." During his prime minis-

tership he became instrumental in founding numerous scientific laboratories and institutes. Aware of the potential of nuclear power in coming times, he threw his entire weight behind the promotion of atomic energy. And he fought and ridiculed all obstructionist ideas with vigour.

Much before shaping the future of the nation, Nehru had blossomed into an author. This facet of the man remained in the background because of the spotlight on his political activities. His *Discovery of World History* and *Discovery of India* are superb examples of candour and objectivity. These are historical documents springing from a unique personal vision. He read a lot and this led to the appreciation of poetry, while also dabbling in a

few verses himself.

The poetry and romantic in him also saw the children of today as the builders of tomorrow. His love for children was a well-established fact, for even in Russia, during a state visit, he was called 'Djaja Nehru' (the Russian version of 'Chacha'), and he would run to children for solace and comfort whenever he felt weighed down by the affairs of the state. "I feel at home," he cried when he was surrounded by the wild cries and cheers of children. He never got tired of espousing children's cause during his stewardship, and episodes of his meetings with children can fill a volume.

Nehru was a workaholic, stern disciplinarian and a loving father. He died on May 27, 1964, as he

would have loved to die. In harness. For he had just returned a day before from recuperative holiday in Dehra Dun, only to leave a vacuum at the top of the Indian political order and also in the hearts of the multitudes.

The centenary of 'Chacha Nehru' will surely be launched and celebrated with pomp around India. And the best way to mark it would be by laying a marked attention to the grooming of the nation's children, for they should grow up to be proud of its old values and learn the modern ones so as to face the future with courage.

For "Chacha" rightly envisaged the child today is the nation's future tomorrow — Arabi News.

150 years of India's Times

CELEBRATIONS to mark the 150th anniversary of one of India's most distinguished newspapers, the English-language Times of India, are being seen also as a wider tribute to the vitality and maturity of the press in this subcontinent of nearly 800 million people.

India today boasts more than 21,700 newspapers and magazines appearing in 92 different languages, and the number is still growing. Here in the capital alone, readers have a choice of some 2,700 publications.

The Indian press has a long and colourful history, and some of today's leading examples have grown from remarkably modest beginnings. The venerable Madras daily, *The Hindu*, for instance, was launched in 1878 on borrowed capital of one and three-quarter rupees and a print run of 80 copies.

Thirty-six of India's existing

newspapers are now centenarians, with the daily, *Bombay Samachar*, founded in 1822, holding the prize for longevity.

The *Times of India*, originally British-owned, is today the flagship of a wholly Indian-owned group which includes a financial daily, two vernacular newspapers and a dozen periodicals. The *Times* itself is published in six provincial centres as well as in the capital.

Although Hindi and Bengali newspapers have recently taken the lead in terms of circulation, the senior English-language ones keep their nationwide influence thanks to their ability to cross regional and linguistic divisions.

During the period of British rule, despite restrictions by the authorities, the press played a significant role in the development of the independence movement. By the mid-19th century

there were already more than 100 Indian-owned newspapers.

The independent spirit continues today and press freedom, including the right to carry lively criticism of government policies and actions, is valued as an essential element of India's parliamentary democracy.

This was recently illustrated when the prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, withdrew a proposed new defamation law in the face of widespread and vehement protests by editors, journalists and the parliamentary opposition parties. They all saw the new legislation as an assault on the freedom of speech.

Media organisations and opposition leaders spoke of the premier's courage in responding to public opinion on this highly sensitive issue.

India's Press Council created in 1979, acts as a watchdog, safeguarding press freedom and the

standards and integrity required of newspapers and news agencies. The Council, a statutory and semi-judicial body, can initiate its own investigations into irregularities as well as considering complaints brought before it.

In one of the most serious cases referred to in recent years, evidence was produced showing that the leading Indian news agency, the Press Trust of India (PTI), had been used as a channel for disinformation.

Between 1978 and 1984 a series of dispatches dated "PTI Moscow" and issued by the agency to all newspapers, were found to have been handed to PTI's Delhi office by the local bureau of the Soviet news agency, Novosti. The PTI correspondent in Moscow, in response to enquiries by his head office, confirmed that he had never filed such dispatches — Lion Features.

A heritage of oranges and war

Before the Flames
A Quest for the History of Arab Americans
By Gregory Orfalea
University of Texas press, 1988
pp. 354.

By Mariam Shahin
Special to the Jordan Times

GREGORY Orfalea, in his recently published *Before the Flames: A Quest for the History of Arab Americans*, pays an emotional tribute to the ancestors of almost two million Americans of Arab descent. From the first known settlers, the Wahabs of North Carolina, who trace their descent from the survivors of an Algerian shipwreck off the coast

A Quest for the History of Arab Americans

BEFORE THE FLAMES



For some unexplained reason the publishers of *Before the Flames*, chose to make the book jacket that they did, portraying the Arab in a garb traditionally worn in the Gulf and desert regions, although only a minute percentage of Arab-Americans stem from these regions.

of America in 1779, to the Yemeni and Lebanese immigrants of today, Orfalea scans the development and adaptability of the Arab immigrants to the new world.

The author interviewed a cross-section of Arab Americans, who "evoked a broad spectrum of Arab-American life, assuring regional, occupational, religious, ideological and generational diversity," in twenty American cities, towns and villages. He also travelled to Beirut twice and Syria once while researching for his book over the period 1982-1986.

Citing the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service as his source, the author compiled a chart as part of the appendix of his book which reveals that (from 1948-1985) the largest number of Arab immigrants had come from Jordan and Palestine, some 63,439; followed by those from Lebanon (62,051), Egypt (61,530), Iraq (52,260) and Syria (29,972).

According to international migration statistics, from 1869-1924, some 127,081 immigrants had come from Syria, or "Bilad Al Sham" to the United States. Thus it can safely be said that "en masse" immigration to the United States did not begin until the late nineteenth century.

Orfalea presents his reader with poetic anecdotes and historical facts which are almost unknown to the average Arab and American. He points out that among archaeological finds that have been made in the Southwest of the U.S. there are scriptures which are in Kufic Arabic which date back to 650 B.C.

Thus the history of Arab cul-

ture and civilisation in North America may go back much further than the immigration records indicate. In a diplomatic precedent, King Mohammed III of Morocco granted free passage to all U.S. ships in 1777, thus becoming the first country in the world to recognise the independence of the U.S.

Beyond historical notes and statistics, "Before the Flames" touches upon the psyche of the Arabs in America, their complexes, their fears and their struggle to survive proudly as Arabs in a country where anti-Arab propaganda is as common as corn flakes.

Orfalea's vivid descriptions are poetic. He describes the early Arab immigrants of the 1920-30 as "too involved with dissolving into America, disappearing, sinking like old coffee into the new

of America. In the most eloquent manner he writes, "Arabs are connectors of people, bridges, but they are also great hiders, vanishers. Instead of popping from the lamp of Aladdin, they jumped in willingly and stopped it with the cork of America, because in America they could be what they are best — stubbornly, beautifully individual, and lovers of family. But try as they might to avoid them, their origins found them — in a headline, in news of a death, in a crumpled letter."

Safe to hate

It was not until the 1970s that the "dilemma" of the Arab-Americans became evident, according to Nicholas von Hoffman, "after the oil embargo of 1973, the Arabs were the last ethnic group safe to hate in America". There was a general disregard for Arabs which was strengthened by economic and political events in the Middle East.

Although Orfalea is less than neutral on the issue of Arab-Americans, himself a third generation Syrian-American, he makes an avid attempt to be "fair" when discussing the Arab-Israeli conflict. He believes that the "good tax paying Arab-Americans, bear as much responsibility as anyone for the chaos in the lands of their origin and therein the dilemma."

Orfalea extensively documents the history of his family both in the U.S. and in the "bilad" as he calls it. He relates to us his childhood memories of what it was like growing up as an offspring of Arab immigrants. "Grandfather's tales of the old country, 'was the magic coat we carried in our hearts. Jiddo was opening the sleeves for us so that we would not be cold in America."

Although Orfalea's description of family relations are somewhat romanticised, his description of other realities do not hide the hardships of the immigrant community or their reasons for coming to America.

Lack of an effort on the part of the Arab community in the U.S. to inform their fellow citizens about their history and their reasons for coming to the U.S., has only contributed to the unsympathetic attitude other Americans have towards Arabs as people. The story of the Lebanese immigrant just after World War I is a perfect example of what Orfalea describes as a classic case of "avoidance syndrome" in the immigrant community.

He describes in detail the starvation of one quarter of the Lebanese population during World War I. He is appalled at the "deadly silence" about these events in the international community, and more so in the Arab community. He compares it to the constant discussions in books,

movies, T.V. series on the death of one quarter of world Jewry during World War II.

Historic link

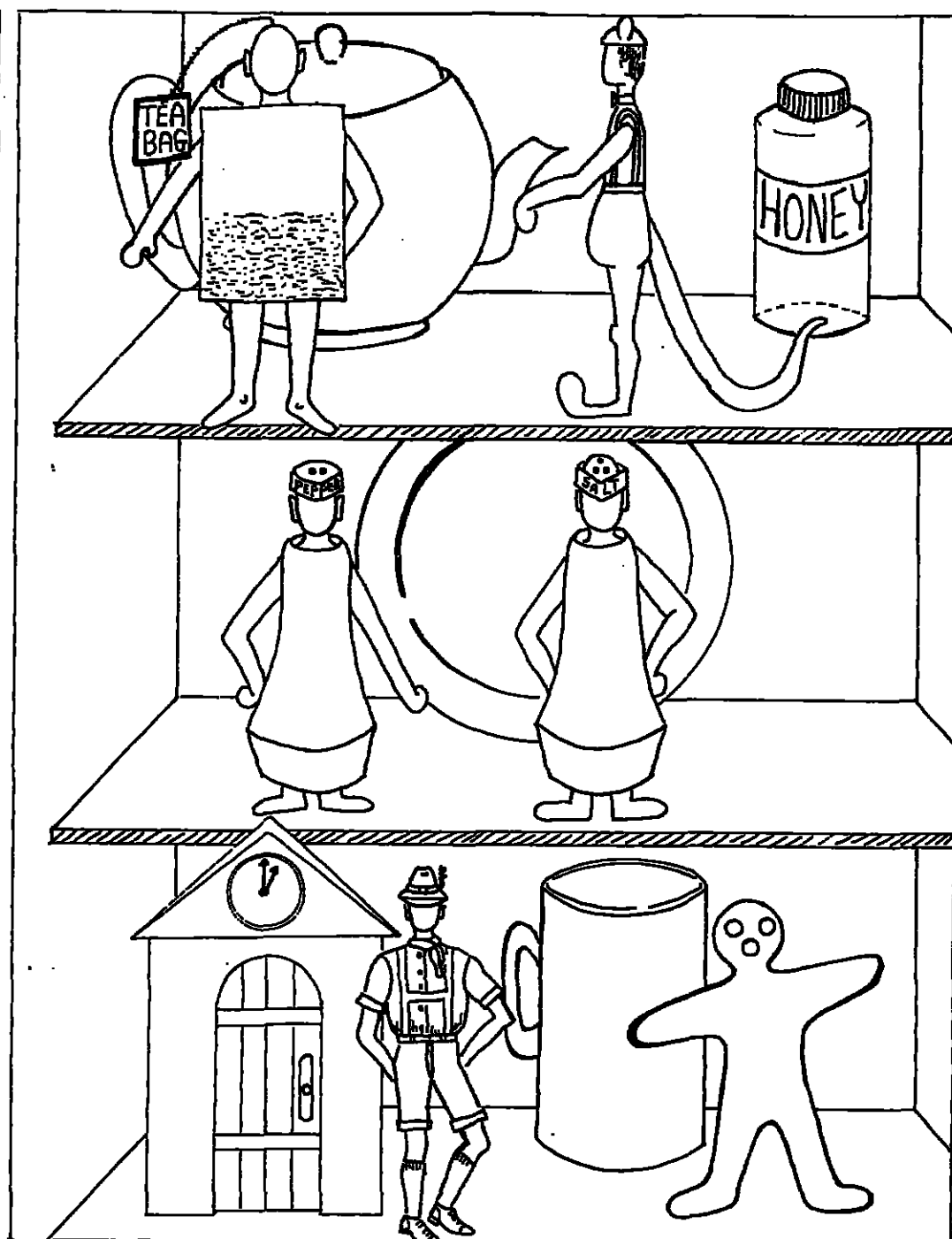
Orfalea makes a very interesting link between the effect that immigration had on their native countries and the events that were to follow. Of Lebanon he writes: "The Lebanese brain drain to Boston and New York meant that the few men of means and education that did stay had a virtual lock on power... these men, the Frangijehs, Gemayels, Chamouns, Jumblatts, Salaams, Karamis... who suckled as infants on a withered breast... became the warlords of contemporary Lebanon... they were kingfish in an abandoned sea."

So the best and brightest went to America leaving weakness and corruption behind? At times this is what Orfalea implies. He talks about transcendental dimensions of the homeland that Khalil Gibran and Palestinian-American author Fawaz Turki have preferred to the realities of the contemporary Middle East.

The torn soul of both the author and many of his fellow Arab Americans becomes evident when he writes while on a visit to the Middle East "some have wandered too far to find their heritage... the heritage of oranges and war." He writes of Omar, a member of the Muslim Arab community in North Dakota, who in a craze bulldozed his community's mosque, the first mosque in America, to the ground. "Omar bulldozed the mosque not to slap Allah in the face but to hurt the community into realising what its lassitude had done to its customs... Omar shocked the Muslims of his community. He was punishing them, and therefore himself, for not praying five times a day and not keeping the faith, and not inculcating enough steel resolve to resist the tide of the ever loving English. 'Omar in his heretic way, suffered from a hunger for meaning and righteousness. His violent act of reducing the Mosque to dust may have been his most ardent act of faith since childhood.' God, you deserve better," he seemed to be saying over the roar of his machine. "Better than us. Better than this. Better than me."

Orfalea's discussion of famous and prestigious Americans and advances in the struggle to reduce anti-Arab propaganda in the U.S. media is very informative both for Americans and Arabs alike. The recognition of the dilemma the Arab-Americans have faced and to a large extent still face in a hostile world, is the essence of "Before the Flames."

Historical explanations and facts certainly help in understanding why the "Arab-American dilemma" reached the stage that it has, and a knowledge of the causes of any problem will ultimately be the key to its solution.



Hey its the Gingerbread Man

The *Gingerbread Man* is coming to Amman next month in a brand new production by the Royal Theatre Company which will be held in aid of the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped. Use your paints and colours in this Jordan Times sponsored competition to bring the *Gingerbread Man* to life and win yourself some free tickets for the opening night performance on December 17. The best entries will also receive a surprise

prize. All entries must be returned to the Jordan Times by Dec. 1, 1988. The judges will award prizes to the best entries in the 5 years and under group and to the 6 to 11 year old group. The winners will be announced in the Jordan Times issue of Dec. 10. All entries will be displayed in the foyer of the Royal Cultural Centre for the duration of the show which runs from Dec. 17 through to Dec. 22.

Name: _____
Age: _____
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What happens in the world of ants

Lion features

THE battle was short and brutal — and the outcome never in doubt. A small commando invading force took the defenceless colony completely by surprise, immediately deploying its chemical weapons against overwhelming numbers.

These weapons had an awe-inspiring effect — the victims became incapable of distinguishing between friend and enemy, and in this chemically-induced madness they attacked one another.

With the colony destroyed, the raiders carried off the babies and the young to a life of slavery, tending every need of idle aristocrats and the upper-crust society of a feudal civilisation.

This scenario, which may have a historically familiar ring apart from the reference to chemical weapons, is a fact of life in the late 20th century. So why do such outrages never make global headlines?

It is because they occur in the mostly unseen world of the ant, a civilisation co-existing with that of mankind.

It is meticulously organised, socially stratified, industrious and lives under the strict rule of law — ant law. But similarity between the enslavement of ants and the infamous period of human history is purely accidental.

Of around 200 genera of ants so far identified throughout the world, about 35 species are known as slave-makers. They are bred especially for their commando qualities. Indeed, this elite fighting force cannot even feed

itself without slaves.

Its jaws have developed exclusively for killing and the mandibles are incapable of chewing food. Thus the slave-makers spend their lives launching raids on nearby colonies, killing all adult ants and carrying off the larvae and pupae to serve their own queen.

The ants are clearly not ignorant of the tricks of modern warfare, subtle or brutal. Their chemical weaponry, however, is far ahead of anything possessed by Man.

In some species, high-ranking workers are known to intimidate those of lower caste who have reproduced too prolifically. And queens, in turn, browbeat those lower down the pecking order to regulate their reproduction.

Not surprisingly, many workers go into exile in a satellite nest where they may reproduce without interference.

Apart from the sophistication of their biological and chemical weaponry, some ant species outshine Man in the physical movement of heavy objects.

While we need sophisticated machinery to tackle even modest weights, by banding together in groups of 100, some ants can move up to 5,000 times their own weight and 10,000 times their volume.

Olympic weightlifters pale into insignificance against such an achievement. It is little wonder that some scientists think that insects will eventually inherit the Earth. If so, the clever and busy ant will be a formidable force in such a world.

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Markets, central banks get set to renew fight

LONDON (R) — The dollar is in for a scary ride in the currency markets this week. Dealers predict the likely resumption of a battle between speculators whose doubts about America's economy make them want to dump dollars and central banks anxious to stabilise the exchange rate of the currency in which the world does business.

The American, Japanese, West German and seven other central banks bought up to \$3 billion Thursday and Friday in open market intervention. Analysts say that they may need to dig deeper into their coffers in coming days.

"The outlook is gruesome. People are now seriously asking themselves what it will take to get back into the dollar. Bush will regret the no new tax pledge," said George Magnus at Warburg Securities in London.

The market, its anxieties focused on America's \$145 billion budget deficit, seems to have decided that President-elect George Bush boxed himself into a corner with his "read my lips, no new taxes" electoral campaign pledge.

The dollar, down about 10 per cent since the summer, ended last week worth 1.7375 Deutsche marks and 122.60 Japanese yen.

Even after two days of concerted central bank buying it was still perilously close to an all-time yen low of 120.20, touched last Jan. 4, when, in the shadow of "Black Monday," markets had an earlier bout of nerves about America's deficits.

Besides worrying about the budget deficit, traders also focus on a huge trade gap and speculate that Bush will finally have to tolerate a weaker dollar to assist America's exports.

So they are tempted to get in first and sell it, and it tumbled despite figures Wednesday showing the September trade gap down 15 per cent from August at

\$10.46 billion. "It was a reasonable trade figure but people saw it as an opportunity to sell dollars. They wanted to get out," said Ian Amstad, an economist at Chase Manhattan Securities.

Robert Solomon, formerly with the Federal Reserve (Fed) Board, the U.S. central bank, and now a scholar at the Brookings Institution, said last week the Group of Seven industrial nations should lower the value at which their central banks will try to defend the dollar by 10-15 per cent.

And to end speculation about how far it might be allowed to sink, they should make that public. "It's the expectation of dollar depreciation that has the unfortunate impact," he said.

Other analysts echoed a warning by Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan that the United States cannot count on its allies indefinitely to bail out a falling dollar. "Europeans can't deliver anything more that hasn't been delivered. It's time for bills to be paid," Magnus at Warburg Securities said. "Greenspan laid it on the line, saying either reduce the budget or we'll have tight money."

But the trouble with a hike in interest rates to curb spending and protect the dollar is that they would crimp business profits and economic activity generally, while adding to a debt repayment burden in the Third World.

Fears of higher interest rates are nagging Wall Street where

stocks last week posted a fourth straight weekly decline. "It's been a dismal week," said New York trader Edward Laux at Kidder Peabody. Many analysts blamed dollar and interest rate fears.

Traders and investors outside America meanwhile seem dubious about a Bush "flexible freeze" plan to cut federal spending.

"Bush can use it to his advantage since it's such an ambiguous term but my feeling is most people aren't encouraged at all by it," said Rupert Thompson, an analyst at Morgan Grenfell Investment Bank in London.

Others said that "untouchables" like defence, social security and debt interest payments took around three quarters of the budget leaving too little spending to freeze.

European analysts saw few options besides new taxes or, for instance, a levy on petrol or some other consumption duty.

"Introducing a gasoline tax of 50 cents a gallon would raise about \$50 billion a year," said Amstad.

Americans pay far less for petrol than Europeans and the Fed's Greenspan has voiced support for a tax on petrol in Congress. But levying one would be politically costly and the idea seems to have little support among Bush aides.

Gulf Air considers public share flotation

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf Air, a leading state-owned Middle East airline, said Sunday it was considering offering shares worth 19.6 million dinars (\$52 million) to the public.

Airline officials said the board of directors would consider transferring ownership of half the company to the private sector if Gulf Air made a profit during 1988, reversing two years of losses.

"If the figure shows a profit, we will consider going on with the privatisation," public relations officer Abdullah Abdul Karim told Reuters. "We are optimistic it will."

Gulf Air said last June its losses more than doubled to 2.8 million dinars (\$7.4 million) during 1987 but it would push ahead with plans to expand its fleet by leasing two Boeing 767-300 aircraft.

Abdul Karim said the airline, which is owned by Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, planned to offer 49 per cent of its paid-up capital of 40 million dinars (\$106 million) to citizens in the four states.

Milan event to show Jordanian opportunities

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian economic delegation, comprising representatives from the ministries of industry and trade, planning, tourism and the Federation of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC), Amman Chamber of Industry, the Royal Jordanian, the Royal Scientific Society and a number of Jordanian businessmen, Sunday left for the Italian city of Milan to take part in a Jordanian investment event which will be held there Tuesday.

Commenting on this event, FJCC President Mohammad Asfour said the event will take place in Milan rather than Rome because it is the centre of heavy industries and economic and commercial activities.

The event, which is organised by the Arab-Italian Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with FJCC, aims to promote Jordanian businesses and to brief potential investors on the incentives given by the Jordanian government to encourage investment in Jordan.

Such incentives were reflected in the recent economic measures adopted by the government to encourage and attract foreign investors.

During the event, the objectives of the five-year development plan will be highlighted and potential investors will be briefed

on investment opportunities in the tourist field, and on the Jordanian banks' role in achieving economic development.

Asfour further said that the investment event also aims to enhance economic cooperation and to strengthen commercial relations and increase the volume of trade exchange between Italy and the Arab countries, including Jordan.

Asfour stressed the importance of the recent economic measures adopted by the Jordanian government saying that the flexibility of the Jordanian dinar exchange rate helps promote investment in Jordan and increase commercial exchange and economic cooperation between Jordan and various world countries.

On commercial exchange between the Arab World and Italy, Asfour said that the Arab countries are still considered a lucrative market for Italian products, particularly machines, electrical fittings and consumable items.

He stressed that the economic weaknesses that have prevailed since 1986 are now diminishing.

Asfour called for the formation of joint Arab-Italian companies and for directing Italian capital towards direct investments in the Arab World.

Asfour noted that oil accounts for 60 per cent of Arab exports to Italy, followed by phosphates and agricultural products.

Intense negotiations fail to resolve OPEC discord

VIENNA (R) — OPEC ministers meeting in Vienna are resigned to a long and difficult haul in efforts to break a deadlock between Iran and Iraq over a new oil output pact, needed if the group is to avoid a threatened crash in prices.

Intense behind-the-scenes negotiations entered a fourth day with no sign that the former Gulf war belligerents had softened their positions, dashing hopes that OPEC could clinch a deal before a formal conference of all 13 members opens Monday.

"Progress has been extremely disappointing," said Nauman Barakat, analyst at New York-based Prudential-Bache Securities.

"If anything positions have hardened to such an extent that it will be extremely difficult to get anything out of Monday's meeting. It might take three or four months," he noted.

The dispute, a legacy of the Gulf war, centres on Iraq's demand for an output quota as big as Iran's in any new set of production curbs. Iran, historically a bigger producer, calls that illogical.

OPEC President Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria held out some hope, saying a proposal was ready for Monday's conference but he would not elaborate. "There is a proposal on the table," he said.

But traders have already pushed prices sharply lower on disappointment over the apparent failure of mediators Indonesia, Nigeria and Venezuela to achieve a breakthrough.

"If we get to Tuesday or Wednesday and the full meeting breaks down, prices will fall further," said Mehdi Varzi, analyst of London-based Kleinwort Benson Securities. Both Varzi and Barakat are in Vienna tracking the OPEC talks.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) attempts to shore up the oil market have been undermined for two years by the Iran-Iraq war which led Iraq to stay out of group production programming altogether. That encouraged other sellers to flout their mandated quotas.

On Sunday Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi repeated Baghdad's demand for parity at a meeting of Arab oil producers held at OPEC headquarters here.

Failure to mend the Iran-Iraq rift will almost certainly block a comprehensive deal among the 13 OPEC nations to cut production, now thought near 23 million barrels per day and about 20 per cent

more than demand for the group's oil.

Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, might then resort to a tactic favoured in the past and flood the market to push prices even lower to stampede the others into an accord.

"The catalyst for an agreement may have to be still lower prices," said Barakat.

Dubai crude oil, one of OPEC's key Middle East blends, is already trading below \$10 a barrel, which is \$7.50 short of a group target price set in December 1986.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, with large oil reserves and strong foreign investments to generate income, would be able to withstand a price crash. But delegates say nations like Algeria and Nigeria could find themselves in economic crisis.

Two compromise plans already seem to have been abandoned. One was a proposal by Iran for equal export quotas while it reserved the right to pump more for domestic consumption.

Another was to set a lower output quota for Iraq to be topped up to Iran's level with oil from the Neutral Zone, a strip of desert between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Delegates said attention now focuses on another possible package that OPEC hopes Iran could sell at home without losing face, apparently involving quota parity but within a low overall ceiling for all group output.

"Privately, Arab producers are sympathetic to the Iranian cause," said Varzi. "But they are not in a position to support it in public."

A deal could involve OPEC setting a relatively low overall output ceiling for 1989, around 18.5 million barrels per day. That would tighten the market considerably, in line with Iran's "hawkish" policy on driving prices higher.

Meanwhile, officials from U.S. oil producing states have proposed that OPEC set up a system that would adjust monthly production by the 13 members to help stabilise prices. Texas Railroad Commissioner Kent Hance said Saturday.

Hance said he had proposed that OPEC establish a system patterned after that of the Texas Railroad Commission which approves monthly production proposals from oil companies and then sets production levels for each oil field in Texas.

OPEC's price monitoring committee could determine each monthly production allotment for its members, Hance said.

GAO urges hiking U.S. tax, cutting arms and social funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Congress' investigative agency said Saturday that tax increases and cuts in defence and social security must be considered to slash a federal budget deficit that threatens the nation's economic future.

"Additional revenues are probably an unavoidable part of any realistic strategy for reducing the deficit," the General Accounting Office (GAO) said in reports to President-elect George Bush and leaders of the House and Senate.

During this year's election campaign, Bush repeatedly stated he would not raise taxes to reduce the deficit. Social security, the national retirement benefit programme, is a sensitive political issue usually exempt from cuts.

Comptroller General Charles A. Bowsher, director of the watchdog GAO, said a workable solution can be developed only through close cooperation between Congress and the new president, with Bush personally involved in the negotiations.

The GAO, which uses hundreds of experts in every field to oversee the federal bureaucracy on behalf of Congress, made no recommendations on which taxes should be raised or which programmes should be cut.

However, the report cited estimates that \$30 billion could be raised each year with slight increases in personal income tax rates, and that a five per cent national sales tax on most commodities except food, housing and medical care would yield \$67 billion a year.

"All participants must consider all parts of the budget to be negotiable, including defence, entitlements (such as social security and Medicare) and revenues," the agency said.

"The budget problem must be solved for the new administration to have any flexibility to pursue its own policy agenda, for the economy to regain its vigour and for the American people to enjoy a long-term standard of living comparable to the rest of the developed world," Bowsher wrote.

The GAO said it saw no "quick or painless solutions" to the deficit, which stood at \$150 billion in the budget year that ended Sept. 30. It specifically rejected four approaches that have been proposed:

— "We cannot 'grow' our way out of the problem," an approach favoured by some in President Ronald Reagan's administration and reiterated last week in a

report by the conservative Heritage Foundation. "Public demand for government services solve problems ranging from abuse, AIDS, education, homelessness to drought, forest fires — grow as fast as revenues," the GAO said.

— "We cannot 'freeze' our way out of the problem." During presidential campaign, Bush repeatedly rejected higher taxes and advocated a "flexible freeze" on spending. The GAO said that the great bulk of the budget is in politically sensitive areas such as social security, farm supports and defence, or in interest costs.

— "We cannot reach our goal by simply gathering in some amount of uncollected revenues." Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis proposed raising revenues by collecting \$86 billion or more in unpaid liabilities annually. The GAO said administrative costs would be high, and it would need several years to train new Internal Revenue Service agents in the job.

— "We cannot 'sequester' our way out of the problem through mechanistic, formula-based programme cuts of the sort prescribed in the Gramm-Rudman-Holzman legislation." That legislation, which calls for automatic cuts in some areas, is aimed at balancing the budget. But the GAO noted that as much as 80 per cent of budget is exempt from the law-mandated cuts.

Although the deficit has deepened from the record level reached earlier in the Reagan administration, the problem is getting worse, the GAO said. "There is an explosion of unfunded costs waiting to greet a new administration," it said.

It listed a cleanup and modernisation of nuclear weapons plants costing \$130 billion, said the Defence Department, a five-year plan calls for at least \$200 billion more than is likely to be available.

The GAO also said Reagan Strategic Defence Initiative would cost at least \$69 billion in its first phase; another \$80 billion-plus would be needed for long-run modernisation of computers and communications systems; \$25 billion for the air traffic control system and \$28 billion for construction of a space station.

OPEC's '89 budget stays near '88 level

VIENNA (R) — The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), hit by falling oil prices, Sunday approved a 1989 budget for jobs that Arab energy projects will change from 1988.

Oil ministers from the 10-nation group, most already in Vienna for talks of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, projected 1989 spending at 1.3 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$4.5 million), about 30,000 dinars less than in 1988.

At its peak in 1983, OPEC spent three million dinars (\$10 million) on joint ventures and companies in oil transport, engineering, investment and training.

But falling oil prices have made it harder for members to pay their dues and the 1988 budget was slashed 40 per cent.

A statement said OPEC entrusted the current chairman of its ministerial council, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mana Said Al Otaibi, to pursue arrears owed by member states.

OPEC groups OPEC members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, the UAE, Qatar, Libya and Algeria with non-OPEC Bahrain and Syria.

Tunisia's membership is frozen at its request. Egypt was suspended after its 1979 peace treaty with Israel and OPEC officials say its membership depends on readmission to the Arab League.

OPEC urged members to cooperate on setting up an Arab energy information bank and agreed to pursue studies on the oil policies of industrial nations and natural gas trade between member states.

The organisation has sought to encourage inter-Arab trade in energy products to cut dependence on outside sources.

OPEC increased the 1989 budget of its Kuwait-based judicial tribunal to 164,350 dinars from 150,000 dinars in 1988.

Turkey, Syria and Iraq to discuss regional water

ANKARA (R) — Ministers from Iraq, Syria and Turkey will meet in Ankara Monday to discuss water supplies from the Euphrates after completion of a Turkish dam project, official sources said Sunday.

Turkey's ambitious plan to pump water to the Arabian Peninsula is also likely to be discussed at the talks which follow a preliminary meeting in Damascus.

Iraq and Syria are concerned that Turkey's Ataturk dam on the Euphrates, to be completed in 1992, will harm their supplies from the river.

"Turkey has no political ambitions over these waters. The waters will not be used for political aims. All rights under international law will be recognised," one Turkish source said.

The Ataturk dam is part of a project to generate up to a fifth of Turkey's electricity needs and to irrigate large areas of land in the economically-backward south-east.

Turkey has advanced the idea of a \$21 billion project to build twin water pipelines to some Middle East and Gulf Arab states, carrying water from the Seyhan and Ceyhan rivers.

Beneficiaries will be Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Turkey will be represented at the Ankara talks by Public Works Minister Safa Giray. Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Karim Hassan Redha will lead the Iraqi team and Irrigation Minister Abdul Rahman Madani the Syrians.

Reagan signs insider trading penalty bill

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Saturday signed a bill sharply increasing criminal and civil penalties for violations of insider trading laws, the White House said.

The bill raises the maximum jail term for insider trading from five to 10 years and raises fines from \$100,000 to \$1 million for individuals and from \$500,000 to \$2.5 million for companies or partnerships.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) can also seek civil penalties of three times the profit gained or loss avoided for traders who violate the law by buying or selling securities using information before it is made public.

The bill allows the SEC to offer rewards for information about insider trading and to increase its cooperation with foreign governments.

ments on insider trading cases.

The stiffer penalties were sought because of continuing insider trading violations despite jail terms and large fines in several prominent cases involving Ivan Boesky, Dennis Levine and others.

The bill passed the House of Representatives 410-0 and was approved by voice vote in the Senate.

The White House said Reagan also signed a separate bill providing criminal penalties for those found guilty of fraud when they sell goods or services to the federal government.

Anyone convicted of defrauding the government could be fined up to \$1 million, go to jail for 10 years or both.

If the fraud involves the risk of serious injury through defective equipment, a fine of \$5 million could be imposed with \$10 million for multiple offences.

Matsushita profits surge on booming Japan demand

TOKYO (R) — The world's biggest consumer electronics company, Matsushita Electric Industrial, has reported sharply higher profits thanks to a buying spree by Japanese businesses and consumers.

The maker of National and Technics products said net profit for the group climbed 33 per cent in the six months to Sept. 30 this year to 104.3 billion yen (\$852 million) from 78.4 billion (\$639 million) in the same period a year ago.

Office automation equipment

and air conditioners sold quickly, outstripping last year's sales by 18 per cent.

Video cassette recorders, colour televisions and other visual gadgets showed a six per cent gain on last year but remained Matsushita's main breadwinner in cash terms.

Matsushita predicted the good times would continue for its worldwide operations, consisting of 165 subsidiary companies and 24 affiliates, at least for the next six months.

It foresees a net profit in the year ending next March 31 of about 210 billion yen (\$1.72 billion), five per cent more than an earlier estimate and compared with 162.83 billion (\$1.3 billion) a year ago, a company spokesman said.

Demand from within Japan climbed 11 per cent in the first six months of the company's year, compared with the same period a year ago.

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Sunday Nov. 20, 1988
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U.S. dollar	462.0	464.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	374.8	376.5
Pound Sterling	839.2	843.4	Dutch guilder	235.6	236.8
Deutschemark	266.0	267.3	Swedish crown	74.1	74.3
Swiss franc	316.7	318.3	Italian lira (for 100)	35.7	35.9
French franc	77.8	78.2	Belgian franc (for 100)	126.9	127.5

Leading teams gear up for the 'bowls'

NEW YORK (AP) — No. 1 Notre Dame is bound for the Fiesta Bowl, No. 2 Southern Cal is bound for the Rose Bowl. But first, they are headed for a 1-2 showdown of undefeated teams that's bound to play a big part in the National Football Championship.

Tony Rice rushed for one touchdown and threw the longest scoring pass of his career, covering 67 yards, as the Irish beat Penn State 21-3 Saturday to go 10-0 and hand the Nittany Lions their first losing season in a half century.

Rodney Peete, playing with the measles, led Southern Cal to a 31-22 victory over sixth-ranked University of California at Los Angeles and the Pacific-10 Conference title. Southern Cal also is 10-0.

In other games involving ranked teams, No. 3 Miami routed No. 11 Louisiana State 44-3, No. 4 acted out West Virginia defeated No. 14 Syracuse 31-9, No. 7 Nebraska routed No. 9 Oklahoma 7-3, No. 12 Michigan beat Ohio State 34-31, No. 13 Oklahoma State defeated Iowa State 49-28, No. 15 Clemson beat South Carolina 29-10, No. 17 Houston beat Texas Tech 30-29, and No. 19 Washington State got past Washington 32-31.

No. 1 Notre Dame 21, Penn St. 3. The Irish have not won a national championship since the 1977 team of coach Dan Devine and quarterback Joe Montana. The Irish went ahead on their first possession when Rice capped an 87-yard drive with a 3-yard bootleg into the end zone. In the third quarter, Rice hit Raghib Ismail on a 67-yarder for Notre Dame's third touchdown.

Penn State ended its season at 5-6, giving Joe Paterno his first losing record in 23 years with the Nittany Lions.

No. 2 Southern Cal 31, No. 6 UCLA 22. Peete, who was diagnosed as having measles just three days earlier, passed for 189 yards and one touchdown, leading Southern Cal. Peete also scored a touchdown, and Aaron Emanuel scored twice.

The sixth-ranked Bruins, who completed their regular season with a 9-2 record and went 6-2 in the Pac-10, meet 10th-ranked Arkansas in the Cotton Bowl.

No. 3 Miami 44, No. 11 Louisiana State 3. Steve Walsh passed for 220 yards and two touchdowns as Miami routed host Louisiana State. The Hurricanes, 8-1, won their fourth straight game and will face Nebraska in the Orange Bowl.

Walsh completed 15 of 29 passes. He has 22 touchdowns passes this year, breaking out of his tie for the school record of 26 set by Vinny Testaverde two years ago.

No. 4 West Virginia 31, No. 14 Syracuse 9. Fullback Craig Taylor scored on a pair of 1-yard runs and West Virginia finished its first perfect regular season at 11-0. The Mountaineer's next opponent is Notre Dame in the Fiesta Bowl.

Syracuse, 8-2, will play in the hall of fame bowl against either LSU or Auburn.

No. 7 Nebraska 7, No. 9 Oklahoma 3. Nebraska ended four years of frustration by beating Oklahoma for the big eighth title and a berth in the Orange Bowl. Steve Taylor

scored one yard for a touchdown, capping an 80-yard march with the opening kickoff for the game's only touchdown.

No. 12 Michigan 34, Ohio St. 31. The Wolverines, who already had clinched a spot in the Rose Bowl, won the big ten outright, rallying to beat Ohio State. Michigan led 20-0 at intermission, but Ohio State scored the first 24 points of the second half and scored on its first five possessions after halftime.

No. 13 Oklahoma St. 49, Iowa St. 28. Barry Sanders rushed for 293 yards and four touchdowns, and Mike Gundy threw an 11-yard pass for the go-ahead score with less than seven minutes to play as Oklahoma State rallied over Iowa State.

No. 15 Clemson 29, S. Carolina 10. Chris Gardocki kicked three field goals — two after South Carolina fumbles — as Clemson beat the mistake-prone Gamecocks. After the game, the two squads accepted bowl bids. Clemson, 9-2, will go to the Citrus Bowl. South Carolina, 8-3, will play in the Liberty Bowl against Indiana.

No. 17 Houston 30, Texas Tech 29. Jason Phillips caught a 3-yard pass from Andre Ware with less than three minutes to play, lifting Houston over Texas Tech in the Southwest Conference.

The victory, in blowing snow, gave Houston an 8-2 overall record and a trip to the Aloha Bowl.

No. 19 Washington State 32, Washington 31. Quarterback Timm Rosenbach scored on a fourth-down, 5-yard run with 9:06 remaining to lift Aloha Bowl-bound Washington State in the intrastate rivalry on a snowy afternoon.

The Cougars, 8-3, will face Houston on Christmas day in their first bowl appearance since 1981. Washington finished 6-5.

and looked dejected after the match.

Platini replaced Henri Michel after the French played only to a 1-1 tie with Cyprus in their previous Group Five match.

It was France's third and Yugoslavia's second qualification match in the group which, besides Cyprus, also includes Scotland and Norway.

The top two teams in the five-nation group will qualify for the finals in Italy in 1990.

A crowd of 20,000 at the half-full army stadium watched the match referred by Sweden's Eric Frederiksson and played in rainy weather.

Platini, one of French soccer's favourite sons who took over the national side, could not have wished for a better start to the European Group Five tie.

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But the lead was shortlived. After forcing six corners, Yugoslavia equalised in the 11th minute when defender Predrag Spasic headed in a free kick curled in from the right by Safet Susic.



Graf, before losing to Shriver

Shriver upsets Graf, meets Sabatini in final

NEW YORK (R) — Fifth-seeded Pam Shriver of the United States stunned world-number-one Steffi Graf Saturday to advance to the final of the \$1 million Women's Tennis Championships against Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

Shriver beat Graf 6-3, 7-6 to snap a 46-match winning streak by the West German Grand Slam Champion and become only the second player to defeat her this year.

"I concentrated as hard as I ever have," said Shriver, who beat third-seeded Chris Evert in the quarterfinals. "It's a huge semi-final win, but it's only big if I win the final."

Third-seeded Sabatini advanced to her second consecutive final in this last event on the women's tennis circuit with a routine 6-4, 6-2 win over eighth seed Czech Helena Sukova, an earlier upset victor, over second-seeded Martina Navratilova.

Defending champion Graf was hampered with a cold she caught earlier in the week but Shriver controlled the match with aggressive play and landed a high percentage of first serves.

Graf, who won all four major open championships this year and an Olympic gold medal, said her cold effected her play slightly but gave Shriver credit for playing a solid match.

"In the beginning I was not right. I think she played good. She had a good steady serve, and my backhand gave me problems," said Graf. "Still, I think it was a great year."

Shriver and Graf traded breaks in their first two games but the American took the initiative in the eighth game with a three successful net approaches to go up 5-3 and served out in the ninth.

Both held serve without difficulty in the first nine games of the second set, giving Graf an advan-

tage at set point, 5-4. Shriver saved the set point with a crisp volley that followed a typically strong first serve and levelled the set at 5-5. Graf then held her serve at love to go up 6-5, and Shriver followed to force a tiebreaker.

Fifth-ranked Shriver, aided by two Graf errors and her sixth ace of the match, raced to a 3-0 lead in the tiebreaker and reached 4-2 before Graf rallied to 5-4 with three strong forehands that forced errors from Shriver.

But Shriver proved too strong on the last three points and a forenetted a backhand and a forenetted off Shriver first serves to go down 5-6 and then sailed a forehand long on match point.

Graf, who had only lost twice in the past two years — to Sabatini and Navratilova — said that she had trouble breathing in the first set but added that Shriver played well.

"I was taking some inhaler in the first set because it was hard to breathe. But I slept well last night, better than earlier in the week," Graf said. "I think she played good."

Yugoslavia defeats France in decisive match

BELGRADE (AP) — Yugoslavia scored eight minutes before the final whistle to overpower France 3-2 (1-1) in a Group Five World Cup qualifying match here Saturday.

Scorers for the Yugoslav team were Predrag Spasic in the 11th, Safet Susic in the 75th and Dragan Stojkovic in the 82nd minutes.

Christian Perez, in the 3rd minute, and Franck Sauzee, in the 68th minute, netted for France. Michel Platini, star captain of the French national squad from 1979 to 1987, was making his debut as the coach of the team

and looked dejected after the match.

Platini replaced Henri Michel after the French played only to a 1-1 tie with Cyprus in their previous Group Five match.

It was France's third and Yugoslavia's second qualification match in the group which, besides Cyprus, also includes Scotland and Norway.

The top two teams in the five-nation group will qualify for the finals in Italy in 1990.

A crowd of 20,000 at the half-full army stadium watched the match referred by Sweden's Eric Frederiksson and played in rainy weather.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Soviets increase chess lead

SALONIKA (R) — The Soviet Union, the current title holders, increased their lead to two-and-a-half points after beating England in the sixth round of the men's chess Olympiad Saturday.

Briton wins Nippon cup yacht race

ZUSHI (AP) — Edward Warden Owen of Britain sailed past defending champion Peter Gilmour of Australia Sunday to capture the Nippon Cup International Yacht Match race.

French, W. German win auto race

MELBOURNE (AP) — The factory-backed Sauber Mercedes team clinched a 1-2 victory Sunday in the 11th and final round of the World Sports-Prototype Auto Racing Championship at Sandown International Raceway. Frenchman Jean-Louis Schlesser and West German Jochen Mass, driving a turbo-charged Mercedes C9, were first in the 360-kilometre race around the 3.9-kilometre circuit outside Melbourne. Their teammates Mauro Baldi of Italy and Stefan Johansson of Sweden were second.

Real Madrid defeats Logrones

MADRID (R) — Mexican International Hugo Sanchez Saturday extended Real Madrid's lead over Barcelona in the Spanish First Division to four points by heading the only goal of the match away to Logrones. Logrones, unbeaten at home before Saturday, dominated for long spells but rarely threatened to unlock the league leaders' defence. Real, who have dropped only three points in 11 league matches, broke the deadlock soon after the interval when midfielder Michel ran on to a pass from Emilio Butragueno and floated a ball into the goalmouth for Sanchez to head into the net.

Malmo takes Swedish title

MALMO (R) — Martin Dahlin scored four goals Saturday to help Malmo to the Swedish league title and a place in next season's European Cup. Dahlin scored twice in each half as Malmo crushed Stockholm's Djurgarden 7-3 in the second leg of the playoff for the championship. The first leg in Stockholm ended in a goalless draw.

Cunha wins Tokyo marathon

TOKYO (R) — Portugal's Aurora Cunha braved chilly wet weather to notch her second marathon victory in three attempts in the Tokyo International Women's Marathon Sunday. Cunha clocked two hours, 31 minutes and 26 seconds after running ahead of six others in the leading pack from the 25 kilometre point.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

LUCK IS THE SOLUTION

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ A 10 7

♥ Q J 5

♦ A 8 4 3

♣ Q 10 7

EAST

♠ K Q

♥ A 10 8 6

♦ J 9 5 2

♣ 9 6 2

SOUTH

♠ 8

♥ K 9 7 4 3 2

♦ Q 9 7

♣ A K 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

If we were to choose a gladiator to carry our standard into a bridge tournament, it would be the Knight of the Woful Countess. It is players who expect the worst that do best in the battle across the green baize.

North-South conducted an intelligent auction to reach an excellent slam. We endorse North's decision to jump to two no trump with his balanced hand, even though he had excellent heart support. When South rebid his hearts, North's two aces and fine heart support made his

hand too good for a mere raise to four hearts, so he cue-bid his cheapest first-round control. South needed no further prompting.

The contract looked too easy to be true. Most players we know would win the first trick in dummy and lead the queen of trumps. West would win the ace and could simply sit back and wait for his second trump trick, which he was sure to get.

Fortunately, South had the technique to "justify" his partner's fine bidding. After winning the ace of spades on the board, he realized that only four trumps with West endangered his contract. So at trick two he came to hand with the king of diamonds to lead a trump to the queen. When that won and East showed out, declarer realized he would need some luck guessing to land his slam.

Declarer ruffed a spade, noting the fall of West's queen. Two more rounds of diamonds revealed the fact that declarer could safely ruff the fourth diamond. Then came three rounds of clubs, ending on the table.

West was down to three trumps, and declarer administered the coup de grace by leading dummy's king spade and ruffing it with the king. West overruffed, but then he was forced to lead away from his 10-8 of trumps into declarer's combined J-9 tenace. The slam was home!

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Flighter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Sensitivities are acute today. Feelings are easily hurt when love is not returned on an equal basis. Have consideration for the feelings of others, and avoid cranky responses over small concerns.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) New energy seems to be everywhere. Love knocks on your door. Popularity is at a high point. Avoid arguments over entertainment.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid isolating yourself from everyday problems. There is a tendency to amplify trifles. Make a molehill out of a mountain instead.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are bombarded with all sorts of ideas and attitudes. Many of these are unique and original. Prepare to enjoy new energy.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your thoughts are not in harmony with your true nature. A poor work situation will change. Use fortitude until it does.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Money poses a challenge. Creativity is high and functioning satisfactorily. Problems at home clear up after productive discussions.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You feel love for others generated from within. You are about to receive more than you gave during a crisis. Relax a bit, and enjoy the attention. Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your bubbly nature saves the day. Talents that are unused will remain dormant unless you act. Approach someone you admire.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Relax with someone you like. You can profit if you put energy into your morning. Develop an inner peace, and bury any resentments.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) An attitude of caring and expressing goodwill will highlight the day. Your personality and strong sensitivities attract others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Your romantic relationship may be suffering due to pressures at work. Busy schedules leave no time for outside considerations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Sorrow over a loss will soon end. You are in solid control of important changes. Spiritual life takes on new meaning through a contact.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Others test your philosophies and intentions. Protect yourself from fraud or loss. Enjoy contact with an old friend and children.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"I said I wanted to see some AFFECTION... not INFECTION!"

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen

ACROSS

1 Partly melted snow

9 Elec. units

10 Half prof.

14 Norman Vincent

15 Rail

16 Aboveboard

17 Following

18 Ancient Asian kingdom

19 Chance

20 Old TV show

22 Burmese coin

24 Prepare a hole

25 Nautical call

28 Statue

31 Beast of burden

36 Cambodian money

37 Low

38 Roof edges

39 Old TV show

43 Echow

44 Sp. ladies' abbr.

45 Map abbr.

46 Beat back

47 Repeat

48 Leading player

49 In the manner of

51 Once around

53 Old radio soap

60 Thought

61 Part

62 Werther von

64 Brand

65 Courage

66 Strong thread

67 Mountain lake

68 It. royal house

69 Anesthetic

DOWN

1 Health resort

2 Deceased

3 Vow

4 Ready for bed

5 Abounding in grass

6 Voyaging

7 Shape

8 Invoke a deity

9 Dance

10 Kleenex

11 Monumental

12 Fit nicely

13 Indle for one

21 Electronic device

22 Except that

25 — as the eye can see

28 Throw

29 Leading

30 Query

32 Thick

32 Scientist's milieu

33 Prevent

34 Firenze Porta

Greek shipping heiress dies at 37

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Christina Onassis, daughter of the late Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, died Saturday morning after being found unconscious at a friend's mansion in the outskirts of Buenos Aires. She was 37.

A hospital source said she was believed to have suffered a heart attack but police said Judge Luis Nino had ordered an inquiry into her death, calling it "questionable."

The local Diarios Y Noticias news agency reported that pills found by her side were being analysed.

Onassis's aunt, Mary Onassis, ruled out any question of any suicide and insisted the cause of death was a heart attack.

"Christina was in the best stage of her life," she told reporters outside the Greek Orthodox Archbishopric where the body was taken for a night-long vigil.

Autopsy results were not available from the city morgue late Saturday night.

The hospital source, who asked to remain anonymous, told Reuters the millionaire had apparently suffered a heart attack and was dead when she arrived at the exclusive Clinica del Sol hospital. The time of death was given as 11:10 a.m. (1410 GMT).

Christina Onassis had been staying with childhood friends at a mansion in the grounds of the elite Tortugas country club about 35 kilometres from the centre of Buenos Aires.

Labelled the quintessential "poor little rich girl" by the popular press, she lost her brother Alexander, her mother Tina Livanos and her father Aristotle within 27 months by the time she was 24 years old.

In quick succession she married and then divorced an American, a Greek, a Russian, and a Frenchman. In 1985, during her fourth and final marriage, she had a daughter, Athina.

The only daughter of multi-millionaire shipowner Aristotle Onassis, she grew up in New York, Paris, Athens and Monte Carlo familiar with such celebrities as Greta Garbo and Sir Winston Churchill. One man who knew her then called her the "youngest jet-setter in the world."

With her father's death in 1975 she buckled down to becoming his heir in fact as well as in name, taking over the intricate worldwide business organisation he had built.

It was a tremendous assignment. The estate at the time of her father's death was estimated to be worth between \$400 million and \$1 billion. Forbes magazine in late 1987 however said Christina "may not even be a quarter-billionaire" because of the worldwide slump in the shipping industry.

After her father's death she returned to her New York birthplace to study under Constantine Gratos, a leading financial adviser heading her father's operations in the United States. She then worked at the company's head office in Monaco.

But her name continued to make headlines over financial disputes with tax authorities and claims on her father's will.



Police hold back a crowd of tens of thousands who demonstrated in Belgrade Saturday against the demands of Albanians in Kosovo.

Kosovo protests subside after tough party talk

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Protests in the troubled province of Kosovo subsided Sunday after Yugoslav leaders warned of possible emergency measures to quell three days of ethnic Albanian unrest.

But protesters in the Kosovo capital, Pristina, said they would take to the streets again within days if their demands for the reinstatement of ethnic Albanian leaders sacked under Serbian pressure were not met.

In Belgrade Saturday hundreds of thousands of people staged a pro-Serbian rally in protest against Albanian nationalism, while 100,000 ethnic Albanians held a counter-protest in Pristina, 350 kilometres south of Belgrade.

Increased police patrols appeared on Pristina streets Sunday in an apparent attempt to

prevent more crowds.

Snow fell throughout the night, driving chanting columns of demonstrators off the streets.

Up to 100,000 marched from dawn until midnight Saturday protesting the forced resignation of two leaders from Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority.

Police blocked roads into Pristina late Saturday evening to prevent more demonstrators from joining the boisterous crowds that have demonstrated in the city almost uninterrupted since the two resignations were announced Thursday.

The province's acting Communist Party head, Remzi Koljgeci, acted late Saturday to try and defuse the tension, announcing that the resignations of leaders Azem Vllasi and Kacusa Jasari

might be reviewed and annulled.

But he also warned that "extraordinary measures of security" could be introduced if demonstrations continued.

"In the past three days, we went through a situation which we could not control," he said in an interview broadcast on television early Sunday.

Serbian Communist Party leader Slobodan Milosevic put pressure on Vllasi and Jasari to resign in the party leader's campaign for more control over Kosovo, an ancient Serbian heartland now dominated by ethnic Albanians.

It was the biggest ethnic Albanian protest since nationalist riots in 1981 in which scores of people were killed and which led to a brief spell of martial law in the region.

Mulroney confident of victory as seesawing campaign ends

OTTAWA (R) — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, his Progressive Conservative Party ahead in opinion polls before Monday's election, pledged quick passage of a contentious free-trade bill with the United States if he is reelected.

"I would want the House (of Commons) to come back as quickly as possible to make sure that the trade legislation is passed, as it should be, as promptly as possible," Mulroney said in

Montreal Saturday. The trade agreement, which would tear down remaining barriers between the world's two biggest trading partners, is the central issue in the campaign.

Supporters maintain the pact is essential for future prosperity but opponents, including the opposition liberals and the New Democratic Party, say it would weaken Canada's economy, threaten its political independence and erode its social programmes.

As the conservatives and the two main opposition parties headed into a last, crucial day of campaigning Sunday, surveys indicated Mulroney was winning

back voters. Liberal leader John Turner had gained the lead in mid-campaign with his crusade against the trade pact and until recently was running neck and neck with Mulroney.

But two polls published Saturday gave the conservatives 40 to 41 per cent of the vote, indicating Mulroney was convincing voters that the free-trade agreement would bring more jobs and greater prosperity to Canada.

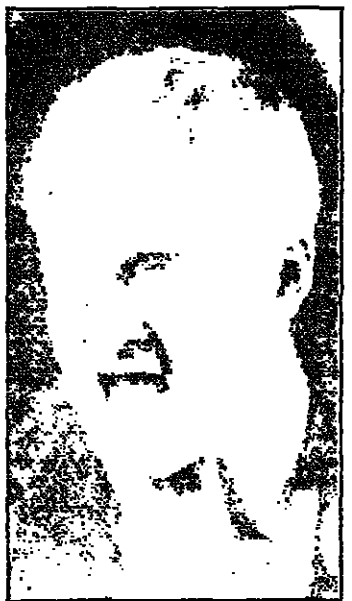
The polls showed the liberals with 33 to 35 per cent support and the New Democrats with 22 to 23 per cent. Undecided voters in the two polls ranged from 11 to 12 per cent.

A third survey conducted for CTV Television network by Insight Canada Research and released later Saturday showed Conservative support at 43 per cent while the Liberals slumped to 32 per cent and the New Democrats to 20 per cent.

Mulroney needs a majority of seats in the 295-member House of Commons to pass the trade agreement. If the Conservatives win only enough seats to form a minority government, the two opposition parties could unite to defeat the pact.



Brian Mulroney



John Turner

Azerbaijani sentenced to death in Sumgait case

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Supreme Court has sentenced an Azerbaijani man to be shot by firing squad for leading a mob that killed seven people in anti-Armenian riots in Azerbaijan earlier this year, a witness said Saturday.

Kuryun Naganpetyan, a Moscow-based Armenian activist and painter, said the verdict against Akhmed I. Akhmedov was handed down by the high court early Friday night.

It was the first death penalty issued by Soviet courts in the Feb. 28 ethnic riots in the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait, during which Soviet officials say 32 people, including 26 Armenians, were killed.

Armenians put the death toll much higher.

State-run media in Moscow did not immediately report the verdict in the trial, which was closed to Western correspondents. But Naganpetyan, who has attended daily to videotape the proceedings, reported the court's decision in a telephone interview.

The riots in Sumgait were sparked by a 10-month-old campaign by Armenians to annex the predominantly Armenian region of Nagorno-Karabakh, which has been part of Azerbaijan since 1923.

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More than 90 people have been charged with criminal offences in the anti-Armenian unrest that broke out in the industrial city on the Caspian Sea about 30 kilometres north of Azerbaijan's capital, Baku.

In May, an Azerbaijani metalworker Talekh Salekh Oglu Ismailov, was found guilty by a court in Baku of committing premeditated murder in Sumgait, and

Armenians, saying the courts in Azerbaijan could not be trusted to be fair, demanded a change in venue, and in July the Soviet Supreme Court and prosecutor's office shifted the cases to the Russian federation.

Red-beretted paratroopers patrolled the elegant streets of the affluent Escalon district, site of the OAS meeting, and helicopter gunships circled overhead.

The attacks, launched after the ceasefire ended Friday evening, appeared aimed at drawing OAS delegates' attention to the conflict.

Rebels partially destroyed the mayor's office and telephone exchange in San Buenaventura in eastern Usulután province early Saturday, the military said. The rebels attacked the police posts at Berlin and Mercedes Umana, both about 16 kilometres west of

Akhmedov and two co-defendants, Ilgam A. Ismailov and Yavar G. Dzhanfarov, went on trial at the supreme court on murder and arson charges Oct. 18.

TASS, the official news agency, said the three were charged with "organising and taking a direct part in mass disorders accompanied by pogroms, acts of arson and murders."

Naganpetyan said Akhmedov was convicted of using megaphone to shout to a mob "kill the Armenians" and of leading them as they stormed 17 apartments in Sumgait and killed seven people, burning some of them alive.

San Buenaventura.

OAS resolution

The OAS assembly adopted a resolution Saturday rejecting "violence and terror, no matter where they come from," and praising President Jose Napoleon Duarte for his efforts to bring democracy to El Salvador.

But delegates said Salvadoran officials were seeking stronger criticism aimed at isolating the FMLN. It would call for a condemnation of "political terror and subversion" aimed at overthrowing governments.

Bhutto sweeps Sind but suffers setback in Punjab

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Benazir Bhutto's party swept its home province in local elections, but near-complete results Sunday from Pakistan's three other provinces were inconclusive.

With the country's first free elections in more than a decade complete, Pakistan is now looking to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to move on naming a prime minister.

Bhutto claims her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) should have first chance at forming a government because it with the most seats by far in last Wednesday's National Assembly polls.

It would make her the first woman to lead a Muslim country. Bhutto's populist party won 92 seats in Wednesday's voting. The conservatives won 55. She claims she has been assured enough votes from other elected candidates to command a majority in the 237-seat legislature.

The remaining 68 seats at stake in those polls went to independents, minor parties and non-Muslim candidates. Voting for two other seats was postponed because of the deaths of candidates. Another 20 women's seats will be filled by assembly vote.

However, her conservative rivals of the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) have said that despite their poor showing in the national election, they too can form a coalition big enough to command a majority.

In Pakistan, the Senate, the National Assembly and the four provincial assemblies elect the president, who is head of state. The president, in turn, has the power to name the prime minister.

There are two clauses on naming a prime minister in Pakistan's constitution.

One gives the president discretion in the timing of his announcement. But another one, originally meant to apply to elections after 1990, requires the new legislature to convene first, not later than 30 days after the vote.

Asked Saturday night when he would make an announcement, Ishaq Khan told the AP: "At the right time."

With all but a handful of 459 precincts reporting results from Saturday's voting, the PPP with 184 polled the largest number of provincial assembly seats nationwide, compared to 145 for the right-wing alliance.

The remainder went to inde-



Benazir Bhutto listening to election returns in front of a portrait of her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

pendents and minor parties.

Complete results from Bhutto's southern home province of Sind showed her party defeated the IDA 67 to one while 32 seats went to the smaller groups.

But in eastern Punjab, where 60 per cent of Pakistan's 107 million people live, conservative edged the PPP 108 to 94. It put the balance of power in the hands of independents and small parties who collectively polled 38 seats.

The PPP, in combination with possible coalition partners, appeared likely to muster slim majorities in sparsely populated Baluchistan and North West Frontier Province.

Political analysts said at least six of the minority candidates, mainly Christians and Hindus, were likely to support PPP.

PPP sources said Bhutto hoped to meet Altaf Hussain, leader of the Karachi-based Mohajir National Movement which won

13 seats in the National Assembly.

Bhutto was strengthened by the PPP's control of Sind, where most Mohajirs live.

IDA spokesman Murtaza Pooya acknowledged the PPP was "in a more comfortable position than we are" to obtain a parliamentary majority.

"The IDA high command is supposed to meet in the next few days to decide whether to go ahead with its attempt to form a government," he said.

Bhutto is also planning to summon her members of the National Assembly to Islamabad early in the week, PPP sources said.

Western diplomats and Pakistani analysts said the arithmetic strongly favoured the PPP, but a nomination as prime minister would sharply improve IDA leader Nawaz Sharif's chances of attracting independent and small parties.

Walesa accuses Warsaw of blocking reconciliation

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa emerged from two days of fruitless talks with Poland's interior minister and accused the country's communist rulers of dragging their feet on national reconciliation.

After secret meetings with Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak Friday and Saturday, Walesa said progress towards reviving "round table" talks on Poland's future had been minimal.

"Their position has stiffened and instead of moving forward we are marking time," he said, indicating the church-sponsored meetings had served little purpose.

However, Walesa told reporters he was still ready for a planned television duel with Alfred Miodowicz, a Communist Party Politburo member and

head of the official OPZZ unions.

"I am ready to meet even with Satan for the sake of Poland," Walesa said. The debate has been set for Nov. 30.

A brief official communiqué after the Walesa-Kiszczak talks gave no hint of what was discussed but said they agreed on further meetings to bring the two sides closer together.

Walesa said progress was impossible until authorities made a political decision to introduce real pluralism — trade union rights and other freedoms — in Poland.

"Once that political decision is made we can immediately achieve big things," he said. "We told them: Enough of these games, that they shouldn't carry on with us until there is a political decision on pluralism. But let's

not quarrel and let's try to find common ground."

The communiqué said Walesa and Kiszczak met at the invitation of Archbishop Bronislaw Dabrowski, secretary of the Bishops Conference, in a church attempt to revive the round table talks which are seen as essential to extricate Poland from social and economic crisis and political deadlock.

Dabrowski was one of five church, government and Solidarity officials at the Walesa-Kiszczak meetings.

Dabrowski last week accused the communist authorities of deliberately blocking the round table initiative in which the church has mediated for two months, and Walesa also accused the government of changing its attitude to Solidarity in that time.

Pinochet raises prospects of nullifying adverse referendum

SANTIAGO (AP) — Military President Augusto Pinochet said Saturday a recent referendum obliging him to call open elections "is null" if the political opposition continues to press for constitutional reform, the government news agency reported.

In a dispatch from the southern city of Coyhaique, the agency Orbe quoted Pinochet as saying opposition leaders had failed to respond to his calls that they abide by the constitution his government promulgated in 1980.

"I have asked them if they accept the constitution, but they remain silent," he was quoted as saying. "If they say 'no,' the plebiscite is null."

The statement, made at a breakfast meeting with female supporters in Coyhaique, was intended to explain a comment by Pinochet Friday that the opposition would "have to live with the consequences" if they failed to respect the constitution, Orbe said.

In the Oct. 5 ballot, voters rejected, by 3.9 million votes to



Augusto Pinochet

3.1 million votes, a proposal by Pinochet and other military commanders that he remain in office until 1997.

As a result, according to the provisions of the constitution, he must call open elections, planned for December 1989. The winner would assume power in March 1990.

Leaders of a 15-party opposi-

tion coalition, which led the campaign for Pinochet's defeat at the polls, have called for several amendments to the constitution.

They object to provisions that would allow the president to appoint nearly one-third of the senate and give the military a majority of seats on an influential national security council. They also object to an article that prohibits all propagation of Marxist philosophy.

They say the changes are needed to assure full democratic powers for the new elected government.

Pinochet has firmly rejected the proposed reforms. The anti-communist army commander, who will be 73 next week, seized power in a 1973 coup that toppled the elected government of President Salvador Allende during a period of economic and social upheaval.

Saturday's comments came at the end of a four-day tour of Chile's far south. Coyhaique is about 1,500 kilometres south of Santiago, the nation's capital.

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BBC pokes fun at Quayle

LONDON (R) — The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) poked fun at American Vice President-elect Dan Quayle Friday. Summing up a report on the 40th birthday of Disney cartoon character Mickey Mouse, a BBC television newscaster quipped: "And contrary to rumours, I told it's not true the Mickey Mouse wears a Dan Quayle watch." Mickey Mouse watches have been a long-time favourite among children — and adults who consider the colourful timepieces trendy. The boyish-looking Quayle has been the butt of jokes in the United States stemming from concern the 41-year-old senator from Indiana does not have the experience to lead the country should anything happen to President-elect George Bush.

Headmasters hire witch doctors

TSHOLOTSHO, Zimbabwe (AP) — Headmasters in several schools are hiring witch doctors to defend the law to exorcise evil spirits from classrooms and teachers' homes. It was reported by Teachers from Bayana, Matshidzela schools in northern Matabeleland province have quit their jobs after complaining they were haunted, the Zimbabwean inter-African news agency said. Residents believe in the spirits, known locally as Tokoloshi, and local government and education officials told visiting cabinet ministers about the problem, the news agency said. They also complained that under the witchcraft suppression act, it is illegal for Ngangas, or witch doctors, to help people to fight the spirits. They appealed to their representative in parliament — Youth, Sports and Culture Minister David Kwadima — to lobby the justice ministry for amendments to the law.

Town crier breaks tradition

LONDON (R) — The boisterous antics of a British town crier has his ancient guild in tears. The guild of town criers said it had expelled John Berry for ringing his bell in a hotel while clad only in underpants, swearing at a mayor and committing an unspeakable sin — using a megaphone. This was in stark contrast to the ancient tradition of England's bell-ringing town criers, who appear ceremonially robed at times of public proclamations, prefaced by the phrases "Oyez, oyez, hear ye, hear ye." "It was all just a bit of fun and high spirits," Berry told reporters. He said he rang the bell to wake up some hotel guests who had to get an early start. Berry was town crier of Newton Abbot in western England.

Gastineau loses scrimmage with wife

NEW YORK (AP) — Former New York Jets defensive end Mark Gastineau was on the losing side of a legal scrimmage with his estranged wife, Lisa, over increased alimony and child support payments. Gastineau, who quit the football team last month citing the health problems of his fiancée, actress Brigitte Nielsen, was ordered to pay \$10,000 in a lump sum to his wife. The money reflects a \$200-a-week increase in alimony and child support that was granted Mrs. Gastineau 3 years after she filed for divorce in February 1986. Gastineau has been paying the increased weekly support payments of \$800 since February 1987. The Gastineaus, whose divorce is pending, have a six-year-old daughter.

2-million-year-old human bone found

PEKING (AP) — A human jawbone unearthed in central China has been found to date back two million years, making it the oldest human fossil discovered in China, an archaeologist said Saturday. The jawbone, containing several teeth, was discovered in 1986 near the upper reaches of the Yangtze River in Sichuan province, but dating tests were completed only recently. The official People's Daily published the conclusion Saturday in a front-page report and said this reinforced still-inconclusive arguments that humans originated in Asia, not Africa. Ji Hongxiang, an archaeologist at the Academy of Social Sciences and a member of the team that excavated the site, said in a telephone interview that experts believed the owner of the jawbone was able to use fire and simple tools. The bone was found buried along with numerous bones of monkeys and other mammals, Ji said. The oldest human remains previously found in China were teeth discovered in Yuanmou county in southern China's Yunnan province in 1962.